New-York Daily Times.

VOL. IV....NO. 1098. NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1855. PRICE TWO CENTS.

Anti-Nebraska men, who urged them to stand off and leave a clear field for a fair fight. They were told that if they would not interfere to rob the anti-Nebraska men of the legitimate well of defense they had in the precedence of the Railroad bill, the latter—as soon as they had disposed of the Nebraska question—would take up the Pacific Railroad bill, and put it through at once. Gen. McDOUGAL was fully aware of this; yet, in the face of it, he joined actively with the Nebraska men, and consented to the postponement of the Railroad bill for their accommodation. From that hour the bill has been dead. The extraordinary folly of Mr. McDOUGAL, in this case, will be appreciated when it is remembered that in giving way on the Railroad bill, he was yielding its rightful precedence to accommodate Southern men, who, under no circumstances, can be induced to vote for any Pacific Railroad bill. Thus he sold out his own State without the possibility of gaining for her the slightest benefit in return. He alone is responsible for the defeat of the Pacific Railroad.

The Senate Committee on Post-Offices and Post Roads have about agreed to recommend five cents as the single rate of Sea Postage on foreign letters. X.

The Bonnet of the Mailbox—Writs against the Commonwealth Bank.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

The *Star* of this city says that Mr. SICKELS return to the United States was preceded by his resignation.

A writ of *ne exeat* was issued to-day by the Supreme Court against the Commonwealth Bank of this city, for a violation of its act of incorporation in discounting notes at usurious rates, and for dealing in promissory notes. The writ is returnable on the 20th of this month. A bill in equity was also filed, praying for a special injunction to restrain the bank from continuing the discount of paper at usurious rates. The hearing on the motion has been fixed for Saturday next.

United States Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Nos. 20 and 21—James Haynes ex. The Yates County Bank. The same ex. James L. Andrews, et al., Errors Circuit Court Michigan.

New-Year's Day in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Jan. 1.

The weather here to-day has been extremely fine, and every one seems to be seeking pleasure.

The receptions by the President, the members of the Cabinet, the foreign Ministers, and private citizens, have been very large, and the day has been more generally and extensively observed than heretofore.

We have no news of any importance to communicate, as all business has been suspended.

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS....Second Session.

SENATE....WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

BOUNTY LANDS TO SOLDIERS OF 1812.

The bill of Mr. BRODHEAD for granting bounty land to the officers and soldiers of the War of 1812, came up as per assignment. A desultory debate upon it followed, in which most of the Senators present took part, and during which Mr. BRODHEAD proposed to amend the second section so that the widow and next of kin of the pensioner should receive the bounty land.

Mr. BRIGHT observed that this was not following former bounty land precedents.

The amendment was then adopted, and the provision to give one hundred and sixty acres of land to those who had served twenty-eight days was objected to.

Messrs. CASS and STUART brought this minimum objection.

Mr. DAWSON replied that the bill meant patriotism, by giving the bounty to all who, by enrolling themselves, had signified a desire to defend their country.

The twenty-eight day minimum service was finally adopted.

A proposition then came up, to extend the provisions of the bill to the revolutionary soldiers.

Mr. TOOMBS—If the bill is a measure to get rid of the public lands, then I am in favor of giving them to the descendants of those who won them.

THE WAY MR. BADGER MADE THE SENATE LAUGH.

Mr. BADGER said he could not vote for the bill without striking out the minimum time, twenty-eight days, for his personal interest was for a shorter time; but, said he, if the Senate will pass my bill raising the compensation of Judges and Congressmen, without Yeas and Nays, and without division, then I'll go for the bill with or without amendments. (Laughter.)

Several amendments were adopted. One restricting the location of land warrants, and Mr. CLAY moved it be committed to the Committee on Public Lands, to ascertain how many acres the bill gives away.

Mr. DOWNS suggested a reference to the Committee on Pensions and Badger Committee retrenchment. [Renewed laughter.]

Mr. CRAWTON believed this the best Homestead bill ever proposed, and appealed to the Senate to pass it at once.

The motion for committal was rejected.

The Sea Fencibles were then proposed as beneficiaries, and the bill being reported to the Senate,

Mr. BRODHEAD renewed his amendment, which the Senate rejected as the Committee of the Whole had done.

On motion of Mr. TOOMBS, the word "minor" was stricken out. Then Mr. BRODHEAD's substitute for the second section was rejected.

Mr. STUART wished to restore the word "minor," and thus abridge beneficiaries. Said bill would flood the market with scrip, and not reach the object contemplated.

After a general discussion, and change of the bill into every possible variety of character, the bill to amend the Judicial system of the United States was made the order of the day for Thursday.

Mr. FISH's emigrant passenger bill was committed to the Special Committee on that subject, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Mr. PERKINS, of La., reported the bill with the amendments, remodeling the Diplomatic and Consular system of the United States. Its consideration was postponed until Tuesday next.

Mr. STRAUB asked permission to introduce a resolution tendering the use of the Hall of Representatives to the Soldiers of the War of 1812, in which to hold their Convention on the 8th of January.

Mr. JONES, of Tenn., objected.

Mr. LAWHAN offered a resolution (adopted) calling on the Post-Office Department for a copy of the contract of 1853, with Messrs. RAMSEY & CORBISE, for the transportation of the United States mails between Vera Cruz, Mexico and San Diego, Monterey and San Francisco, and likewise other information relative thereto.

The House proceeded to the consideration of a bill to amend the act of August 4, 1854, reducing and graduating the price of public lands to actual settlers and cultivators.

Mr. DOWDELL explained an amendment he wished to be adopted, to deny any person who has not declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, the right of pre-emption lands. Under the present law foreigners of all colors without such a declaration may avail themselves of its provision.

Mr. CONE replied: The bill simply provides machinery for the lower carrying the law into effect. Differentiation having arisen, he appealed to his colleague not to persevere in his amendment and remarks, as they would open up the discussion of the "Know-Nothing" question, and thus retard the passage of the bill before the House.

Mr. DOWDELL wished to force protectionists, as colonies now have superior bounties to native born, or those who have declared their intentions of becoming citizens.

Mr. CONE took issue with the gentleman.

After further debate, several others participating in it, the bill and pending amendments were recommitted to the Committee on Public Lands.

THE GOVERNOR'S REASONS FOR VETOING THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

A message was then received from the President by the United States and read. He says, in returning to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, the bill entitled

"An act making appropriations for the repair, preservation and completion of certain public works, heretofore commenced under authority of law," it seems necessary for him, owing to the late day at which the bill was passed, to state his objections in a very brief, concise way, at the same time a purpose to resume the subject for more deliberate discussion at the present session of Congress, for while by no means insensible to the embarrassments of the task, he considers the two Houses of Congress are entitled to an expression of the considerations which have induced the dissent on his part from their conclusions in this instance. "What, in a nutshell, is the system proposed by the present internal improvements? What does it embrace? What exclude? No such language is found in the Constitution. Not only is it not an expression in the Constitution, but it has no sufficient meaning to be of any value as a means of a safe conclusion either of Constitutional law or practical statesmanship. If there is any power to construct railroads and canals, there must be the same power to construct bridges and drain marshes, and provide means of irrigation. In fact, improvement of the earth for the development of natural resources. He says he has had occasion more than once to express to the Judgment, and took it for granted it was a fundamental proposition, that the Federal Government is the creature of the States, and that the sovereign power is in them alone, and that from them all power is derived. All power undoubtedly to the Government is to be found in the grant, and denying that the power for the system of internal improvements is to be found in the preamble to the Constitution, he proceeded to examine the various clauses to that instrument under which the power for the system of internal improvements is claimed, coming to the conclusion there is no specific power to such works, and no provision broad enough to cover them. This view has been maintained by the soundest expositors of the Government. Congress can only construct such works as may be necessary to carry out a specific power. He refers to the views of JEFFERSON, JACKSON, POLK, and others, in commendation and approval, and contrasted the vast expenditures which would necessarily be involved in the system of internal improvements. If the improvement of the navigation of river and harbor be necessary for military or naval purposes, the subject is matter of legislative discretion.

The message was very long, and in its conclusion the President says, "The considerations I have submitted, added to the embarrassments of the whole question, impels me to suggest the policy of confining the appropriations by the General Government to the works necessary to be constructed from its undisputed powers, and of leaving all others to individual enterprise, or to separate States, to be provided for out of their own resources, or by a recurrence to the provisions of the Constitution which authorize the levying of tonnage duties, with the consent of Congress, for the improvement of harbors."

REMARKS.

Mr. PHILLIPS then rose and said—Inasmuch as many bills for Internal Improvements have been submitted and referred to appropriate Committees on which discussion of the question will ensue, and for the purpose of enabling members to consider more maturely the principles stated by the message, I move it be laid on the table and printed.

Mr. HAVEN hoped his friend from Alabama would not undertake to have pursued any course which would prevent gentlemen in various parts of the House from expressing their views. He had endeavored to hear the message read by the Clerk, but as his seat was remote, he only heard a point here and there. It seemed to him that some parts of it were connected well, and other parts of it in a way that would not stand scrutiny. He took it for granted the President desires his views fully discussed. The Message fell far short of being what the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. BAYLY, said would be a model message. He suggested the Message be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. PHILLIPS acquiesced, and it was so referred.

THE GOVERNMENT SWAMP LANDS.

The House went into Committee on the bill for the relief of purchasers and occupants of swamp and overflowed lands. It appears from the debate, that the government, until recently, kinds other it had asked them to the House in which may be, and the object of the bill is to secure a title to purchasers.

OBJECTIONS TO THE RECIPROCITY TREATY.

Mr. MAYALL spoke in opposition to the Reciprocity Treaty between the United States and the British American Provinces, extending it free trade entirely for the benefit of the latter and explained a bill which he intends introducing, for the mutual benefit of both parties. He condemned the territorial policy of the Administration, saying ten millions were given to SANTA ANNA, under the Gadsden Treaty, for land about half as large as Vermont, and for the sole purpose of making another Slave State. He condemned the repeal of the Missouri Compromise as a breach of faith which will prevent the North from entering hereafter into any compromises whatsoever. The Administration and the Democratic party have cast a firebrand which has deflagrated the combustible mass never to be extinguished. The people of the North are now ready to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, and the Territories, and prevent the admission of any more Slave States into the Union. In Congress, the question will have to be met and the battle fought never to cease until either liberty or slavery shall triumph.

The Committee then rose.

Mr. WENTWORTH (Mass.) reported a bill for preventing the introduction into the United States of foreign criminals, paupers, idiots, insane and blind persons. Recommitted to the Committee on Commerce.

Adjourned.

STATE AFFAIRS.

The Governor takes the Oath of Office.

THE INAUGURAL.

OPENING OF THE SESSION.

CAUCUS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

8 A.M.

DeCorn Pardoned by Governor Seymour.

The Argus Sold to the Softs.

Special Correspondence of the N. Y. Daily Times

ALBANY, Monday, Jan. 1, 1855.

Stirring times here at the Capital this bright New Year's morning. Early stirring, too, for at 10 o'clock MYRON H. CLARK will swear to support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of New-York, and faithfully to perform the duties of Governor of the State of New-York. It is a cloudless sky, and a warm, bright sun, under which he stands, as he solemnly assumes the functions of the high position which the people have called him to fill—a hap, by presentment of the future—at least, I hope so, and believe it will be.

Escorted by the brilliant military staff of the Executive, the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor elect proceeded from the Executive Mansion to the steps of the Capitol, where they were met by his Excellency Governor SEYMOUR and the State Officers. After the oath of office had been administered by the Secretary of State, Governor SEYMOUR thus suggestively addressed his successor:

GOV. SEYMOUR TO GOV. CLARK.

To my congratulations, Sir, on this occasion, I will add a few words with respect to the duties of the office upon which you now enter. The solemn oath you have taken to support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of New-York, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Governor, is of grave import. You are carefully to examine all acts of legislation, and to withhold your sanction from those which you will find violate the personal liberties of our citizens, or "that form the real or pretext of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference," which the Constitution declares "shall forever be observed in this State to all mankind." You are to see that those rights of individuals and minorities, which written Constitutions are designed to protect, are not invaded or destroyed. You are to enforce the laws and maintain the good order of society, and to this end the power of the State is placed at your disposal. If necessary, you may declare any portion of the territory to be in a state of insurrection, and you may call into service the entire military force to execute the laws, or to suppress insurrection. Your duties are to be performed under circumstances which will appeal most powerfully to your sympathies and which will lead you to implore the guidance of Divine wisdom that you may so comport yourself that every man the objects of punishment shall have no cause.

The responsibilities of all these duties will often be arduous and great embarrassment and sometimes with great anxiety. I know that you bring to their discharge the purpose to perform them faithfully, and to the best of your judgment. I trust the public will, whose behalf you will act, to sustain that just appreciation for your motives, and that consideration regard for the difficulties of your position, which should ever be extended towards a public officer. I trust you will in no degree be embarrassed by those unjust imputations which impugn the motives, or untruthful statements which impair the good name which encourage disorder and crime by lessening the power of those who are charged with the administration of justice.

As a citizen of the State, I will feel that they best advance the interests of the State and uphold its dignity, when they manifest a just respect for the motives and conduct of those who represent its power and enforce its laws.

Whether it shall be your fortune in your official career, to commit with public judgment, or your duty on any occasion to incur popular imputation, I know that at the expiration of your official term you will be conscious that you have discharged your duty with no consideration save the best interest of the State and sound principles of legislation and government.

You may encounter the misfortunes of party feeling or the more lateral influences of bigotry or intolerance, but the conviction that you have faithfully, laboriously, and conscientiously performed your duty, will ever be to you a source of gratification and pride.

I now congratulate you, and again express my earnest hope that your administration will be beneficial to the people of the State and agreeable and happy to yourself.

GOV. CLARK TO GOV. SEYMOUR.

To this Governor Clark made the subjoined appropriate response:

HONORED AND EXCELLENT SIR: In assuming the duties of the position from which you now retire, I am not unmindful of their delicate, arduous, and often difficult nature.

I receive the trust, not indeed without diffidence in my own abilities, but with a firm reliance on the Supreme Ruler of the Universe for his guidance and an honest purpose to discharge it faithfully—not to promote sectional or party interests or ends, but for the general prosperity, and the permanent welfare of the whole State, and the honor and happiness of its citizens.

For your invocation to the people to yield to my administration a fair support, and especially for your kind expression of confidence in myself, I am sincerely grateful, and I shall endeavor to merit, not only your regard, but that of all who desire the well-being of the State and the permanency of its institutions.

I should fail to do justice to my own feelings, did I not add that no opinion which I may entertain opposed to your own on questions of public policy, can prevent my doing full justice to the upright spirit and unerring sound sense which you have displayed in the multifarious duties of your office, and the high personal qualities which during the past year, the record of your fidelity, which you will carry with you to the retirement of private life.

Accept once more my thanks for your courtesy, and my sincere wishes that happiness and prosperity may attend your future life.

The Governor and Lieutenant-Governor then proceeded to the Executive chamber, where the people crowded in vast numbers—a steady unbroken current for three hours—to greet him with "a happy New Year," and not infrequently wishing his administration a hearty God-speed.

At 12 o'clock the doors were closed—the Governor retiring for the day to the quiet of his civic family circle, escorted by his staff.

In the evening, at the invitation of Quartermaster-General MITCHELL, the military family of the Governor and a few friends partook of a dinner given in commemoration of the last general orders of the commander-in-chief. It was one of the most pleasant reunions that I have ever experienced. If the Quartermaster always discharges the duties of his office with as much taste and liberality as he evinced last evening, as the host of Congress Hall, the New-York State forces will never lack for such pleasant entertainments. Responsive addresses were made by Lieut. Governor RAYMOND, Comptroller FLAGG, Adjutant-General DE PEYSTER, Inspector-General BRUCE, Quartermaster-General MITCHELL, Engineer-in-Chief GEO. CHAMBERS, and the Judge Advocate Gen. VANDERPOEL.

DE CORN PARDONED.

Governor SEYMOUR has pardoned DE CORN, the Freedman under sentence of death for murder in New-York. This has been done in consequence of the urgent application of the French Minister.

THE ARGUS.

Strenuous efforts have been made by the Know-Nothings to purchase the *Argus*. They have failed, however, and the establishment has been sold essentially to Mr. JOHNSON, hitherto one of its proprietors. It is said, however, that it is ready to be taken off the Softs, and that it is to be edited for their benefit. The *Atlas* will probably be discontinued. J. B. S.

ALBANY, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

The Senate of the State was called to order this morning by the Lieutenant Governor, R. J. RAYMOND. Every member answered when the roll was called. Mr. RAYMOND, on commencing the discharge of the duties of presiding officer of the Senate, thus addressed the "circle:"

MR. RAYMOND'S ADDRESS.

SENATORS: In the discharge of the Constitutional functions of the office to which I have been elected, I am present to preside over the deliberations of this branch of the State Legislature. I am profoundly sensible of the dignity and responsibility of the position I am called to fill, and of the extent to which I shall need your indulgence in the execution of its trusts. My task will not be difficult—for it is only to direct your attention to the provisions of those rules which you will adopt for your own government; in the execution of your behalf, I shall endeavor to secure the practical application of those rules with promptitude, with firmness, and with entire impartiality. I solicit, Senators, your generous confidence in the sincerity and uprightness of my intentions, your aid in the performance of my duties, and your kind consideration to the errors I may commit.

The Senate is now in order for the transaction of business.

Committees were appointed to notify the Governor and the Assembly of the organization of the Senate, and the rule taking from the Lieutenant-Governor the appointment of committees—in force the last session—was rescinded—the Message was read and the Senate adjourned, doubtless to consider the suggestions and recommendations therein contained, with a gravity and deliberateness becoming sage legislators.

WHIG CAUCUS.

The Whig caucus of the Assembly, last night, was attended by seventy-six members—every Whig that was in Albany when it was convened. On motion, Hon. WILLIAM W. WEBB, of Erie, was chosen Chairman, Hon. ROBERT COLEMAN, of New-York, and Hon. S. B. GAYES, of Ulster, Secretaries. The caucus proceeded at once to the selection of a candidate for Speaker, the ballot resulting in the choice of Hon. DE WITT C. LITTLEJOHN, of Oswego; by a unanimous vote. RICHARD W. SHERMAN, of Oneida, was nominated for Clerk by acclamation. BYRON ELLSWORTH, of Chautauqua, was nominated for Sergeant-at-arms, HANNAH GROESBECK, of Rochester, Doorkeeper, and SAMUEL HALL, of Albany, and WILLIAM BUTTIC, of New-York, Assistant door-keepers. Messrs. R. M. BLATCHFORD, of New-York, W. B. WOODS, of Cayuga, S. B. GAYES, of Ulster, C. SCHUYLER, of Saratoga, and A. DAVIDSON, of Albany, were chosen a Committee to convene the caucus when deemed necessary.

THE ASSEMBLY.

This morning, the Assembly was called to order by the Clerk of the last House, at 11 o'clock, and the oath of office was administered to the members, by Hon. E. W. LEAVENWORTH, Secretary of State.

The candidates agreed upon in the Whig caucus last evening were then elected, Mr. LITTLEJOHN receiving 76 votes, and Hon. ARMENGO STEVENS, of Genesee, the candidate of the Democratic caucuses, 37 votes. General SHERMAN, for Clerk, received 73 votes, his Democratic opponent, ALBERT EDGERTON, of Delaware, 30 votes, SAMUEL J. COZZE, receiving 7 votes. The latter candidate is suspected of having concentrated the votes of that mythical gentleman, "Sam."

Mr. LITTLEJOHN, the Speaker elect, was escorted to the Chair by Hon. R. M. BLATCHFORD and ARMENGO STEVENS. On reaching the Speaker's desk, Mr. LITTLEJOHN then responded to the warm applause with the greeting of the commencement of his choice:

SPEAKER LITTLEJOHN'S SPEECH.

GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSEMBLY: You have selected me for your presiding officer. I thank you for the honor thus conferred.

It will be my endeavor so to act, that at my retiring, so to speak, the confidence and esteem of the Chair, as an honorable, just, conscious and courteous and that equally just, which I shall so much need—your cordial and efficient support.

Be assured I shall endeavor the rules you may adopt for your government with strict impartiality, and with a due respect for the rights of every member.

Questions of great public interest, exciting in their nature, and leading to wide differences of opinion will engage your attention. In their discussion let us, as governed by eastern courtesy and mutual forbearance.

Called, as we are, to deliberate upon measures involving the best interests of a large and intelligent constituency, let us invoke upon our labors the guidance and blessing of that Supreme Ruler without whose sanction all human laws are vain, and all human wisdom insufficient.

The House being organized, Committees were appointed to notify the fact to his Excellency, Gov. CLARK, and the Secretary the Senate. The higher branch, through a special Committee, announced its readiness to unite with the republican branch in the consideration of the business about which they were assembled, to wit, the offering of sundry and diverse written resolutions, petitions, reports, bills, &c., when all and singular the documents therein announced by any number of uttered words, signifying Democrats. I shrink from a further repeating of the significance of that brief announcement. "The Senate is now organized and ready to proceed to business." The clergyman this morning was reminded thereof, taking early occasion to invoke the watchful care and all-wise guidance of Divine Providence through the prospective deliberations of the "associated wisdom," uttering a fervent wish that at the end of the one hundred days allotted unto Legislators yet to live, the people would commend them for "good and faithful servants."

THE MESSAGE.

The Governor, in accordance with his promise, through J. I. CRAMERER, his Private Secretary, communicated to both branches of the Legislature his Annual Message, the reading of which was immediately commenced. You will of course peruse the document at length in the readers of the TIMES. And I commend it to their attentive perusal—they will find it worthy thereof, or I am much mistaken. It has the ring of the true metal, (forgive the originality of expression,) and is eminently suggestive. Your Wall-street and its customs—your Board of Brokers, and the ways and means by which they alike recklessly flood the market with worthless stocks, and depreciate the value of good ones, find fitting notice in his Excellency's Annual. I wish I could hope that the strictures which the Governor has felt it his duty to administer, will be received in a becoming spirit by the heated and secret brotherhood who buy and sell stocks and bonds.

The efforts made from time to time to effect the repeal of the Usury laws are condemned, and the condemnation is tritely enforced by a line of argument that will prove sound and unanswerable.

Other and equally interesting topics have entered the *attention of the Secretary, but I may not devote time* and space to their mention speculatively.

When the reading of the Message was concluded, so much thereof as related to the subject of temperance was referred to a Select Committee of Seven, and the remainder to the Committee of the Whole House.

"SAM" AROUND.

There were then introduced a variety of resolves relating to the routine business, rules, &c., and one or two which were evidently the offspring of the Anti-Sam element. Just how so prevalent—indicating a determination to make that subject a prominent point of debate.

The House adjourned to meet again this afternoon for the purpose of drawing for seats, and getting members settled therein. To-morrow morning you may read upon the commencement of business in earnest.

By the courtesy of officers, it occurs to me that the Assembly has been peculiarly fortunate. The undersigned has many a time mentioned to the manly character, the high integrity and amiable qualifications of Mr. Speaker LITTLEJOHN—but before now appreciated the fidelity, the assiduous, the courtesy and kindness of the Clerk, Gen. SHERMAN, and I doubt not that, at the close of the session, the members of the Assembly will concur therein with

J. B. S.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

TO THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY:

FELLOW-CITIZENS: In obedience to the requirements of the Constitution, I hereby submit for your consideration an account of the financial condition of the State, its various institutions and interests, together with such remarks as they suggest, and as seem to me appropriate.

FINANCES.

The receipts on account of the General Fund during the last fiscal year, were $1,[illegible] and the payments during the same period were $1,017,890 98. At the close of the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1853, there was a deficiency in the revenue of this fund of $419,219 09; this has been reduced during the past year $140,188 56, and the deficiency on the 30th of September, 1854, was $279,054 36. This reduction has been effected by the increase in the State tax, which was raised from one-quarter of a mill to one mill on the dollar by the Legislature of 1853; over half the amount thus raised, however, $457,145 86, was paid in accordance with the requirements of the law, to the Auditor of the Canal Department, for the payment of debts due to contractors, for damages, &c. During the next fiscal year the State tax will be only three-quarters of a mill on the dollar; and according to the estimates of the Comptroller, the income of the General Fund will not be sufficient to meet the ordinary expenses of the Government, including the indebtedness of the State Prisons—so that the deficiency now existing will be still further increased.

The receipts of the General Fund during the past year include the sum of $300,000 out of the surplus revenues of the Canals after meeting previous demands upon them made by the Constitution, to the amount of $1,650,000. By the amendment of the Constitution adopted in 1853, authorizing loans for the completion of the enlargement of the State Canals, there is set apart out of those revenues such additional sum as shall be sufficient to pay the interest as it falls due, and extinguish the principal in eighteen years, of any loans that may be made for the purpose specified. This provision will increase the sum payable out of the surplus revenues of the Canals, before the General Fund can receive any benefit from them, to $1,940,890, during the coming and to a still larger amount during each succeeding year. Under these circumstances there is some reason to apprehend that the large contribution hitherto made to the General Fund from the canal revenues, must be suspended, and that the deficiency in that fund must be correspondingly increased. The Legislature will, therefore, perceive the necessity of more than ordinary economy in the appropriations they may make for any of the various objects that will solicit their attention.

These deficiencies in the General Fund have hitherto been paid out of moneys in the Treasury belonging to the several funds held by the State in trust;—the amount due those funds on the 30th of September, 1854, and constituting a debt against the State, was $108,770 77, above the available means in the Treasury. The condition of the General Fund, as well as the custom that has become uniform, of appropriating the capital of Trust Funds held by the State and declared by the Constitution to be inviolable, to meet its deficiencies, demands the attention of the Legislature.

The debt of the General Fund on the 30th of September last was $6,355,654 37. In the Sinking Fund provided by the Constitution for the extinguishment of this debt, there is a deficiency for the past fiscal year of $11,268 08, which is likely to be still further increased.

The capital of the School Fund at the close of the fiscal year was $2,425,211 97; which is an increase of $41,854 74 during the year. The receipts on account of the revenue of this Fund were $144,116 07. The capital of the Literature Fund is $268,020 15, and the revenue received from it during the year was $16,328 14. The capital of the United States Deposit Fund is $4,014,300 71, and the receipts on account of its revenue were $257,690 02.

THE CANALS.

The receipts of the State Canals from tolls, rent of surplus water and interest on current Canal revenues, during the past year, amounted to $2,[illegible] 81—and the aggregate expenditures for repairs, superintendence, &c., were $1,227,000 90. The surplus revenue was thus only $1,700,700 91; in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, the sum of $1,944,861 72 has been set apart for the various purposes specified in that instrument, including $400,000 towards the expenses of the State Government. There is a deficiency thus in the revenues of the Canals, of $244,160 81. [illegible] there will not only be no surplus to be appropriated to the work of enlargement, but no surplus for contribution to the General Fund. There is no good reason to apprehend any difficulty in making all the payments to the Sinking Fund required by the Constitution so that the credit of the State will not be in the least impaired.

The loan of $2,000,000 made for the purpose of the enlargement realized a premium of [illegible] 77. The total amount of contracts entered into prior to the enlargement of the several canals, is $[illegible],743 84, in round numbers, which is [illegible] less than the estimates of the Engineers. The report of the Auditor of the Canal Department contains much information and many suggestions on the general subject well worthy of your attention.

BANKING.

From the records of the Banking Department it appears that fifteen banking associations have been organized, and eight individual bankers have commenced banking during the fiscal year. The total amount of capital stock issued to banking associations and individual bankers on the 30th of September, 1854, was $[illegible], of which $4,710,248 11 were in bonds and mortgages. The whole number of banks, banking associations and individual bankers on the same day was 204; the amount of circulation was $[illegible], 135, and the whole amount of banking capital was $63,772,209, being an increase of $7,[illegible] over the previous year. Notwithstanding the extraordinary financial embarrassments of the year, the Banks of the State, with not four exceptions, have promptly met their liabilities to the public and the public. The cases in which failures have occurred, afford renewed evidence of the comparative insecurity of allowing banks and banking to be conducted at their pecuniary risk, on a basis of banking. During the past year there has been an increase in this class of securities of $[illegible] 78, much of which has replaced State Stocks that have been withdrawn. Inasmuch as the more issue of State Stock authorized by the recent amendment of the Constitution, will furnish all the security required for legislation and healthy banking purposes, the attention of the Legislature may very properly be directed to the propriety of modifying the existing law in this respect. Abuses have occurred in the enforcement of the provisions of the act of 1851 requiring the security of bank bills to be deposited in Boston Banks, with which they are supposed, [illegible] additional legislation for the more perfect security of that very large class of our people for whose benefit Banks for Savings are established. The details of the condition of the banking interest of the State will of course be set forth in the report of the Superintendent of the Banking Department.

PENAL INSTITUTIONS.

The increasing importance of our penal institutions, not only entitles them to your most watchful supervision, but demands a close scrutiny of the system upon which they are conducted, with a view to such amendments as may be necessary to obviate its existing evils, and secure the attainment of the highest good attainable. Such a classification of criminals, as should prevent the association of the young, unschooled in crime, with the hardened and depraved, whose pride of recklessness, with hardened glory in their guilt, would counteract the reformation of the former, or at least prevent their being what they now are, the schools of depravity. Under the existing system of our Prisons, this much needed reformation cannot be consummated, and thus the influence which, under a better system, would be exerted, is lost to the community; and they are, in some sort, the instruments for perpetuating evil, which they are designed to prevent. This, if at all, this evil can be remedied by legislation, is worthy of your inquiry; and, I believe, I doubt not, that measure of amelioration which its importance demands.

OUR PRISONS.

The financial condition of our Prisons is presented to you by the Comptroller and the Inspector of State Prisons. The statements made to the Legislature for the purpose of disclosing the pecuniary liabilities of those institutions, led to the adoption of a resolution by the last Legislature, requiring the Inspectors of the State Prisons, last year, calling upon the Canal Inspectors to report the whole number of hands employed on the Prisons of the State. This was done; and it was found that their aggregate liabilities amounted at the lowest estimate, to $[illegible]. When it is remembered that but a few years since the Prisons were a source of revenue to the State, this report, taken in connection with the report of the Comptroller, showing that the expenditures of the Prisons, with their management were incompetent to the performance of their duties, or entirely unworthy the trust which had been confided to them.

The enormous discrepancy between the Reports of the Inspectors and the annual statements of our respective Agents, attracted the attention of the Legislature, which, at its last session passed a bill, directing the Comptroller to appoint three Commissioners, who should be charged with the duty of investigating the affairs of the Prisons, and report thereon. The Commissioners appointed under that act have not yet completed their labors, but will do so in time to make their report at an early period of the session. The evidence which they have gathered will enable you to judge what ameliorations are needed, and what further measures, if any, you should adopt to prevent their recurrence. Under the new system of by the last Legislature, the duties of Agents were more minutely defined, and greater pecuniary risks and safeguards thrown around them. These, with the administration of proper officers, may be sufficient to guard against the repetition of your abuses. Should additional legislation be necessary, I know of any law that proposes to secure safety, necessary in the transaction of the business, and demands more rigid accountability from the officers of our penal institutions, will meet with my cordial approval.

The Auburn Prison, under the operation of the amended law, has been enabled to pay them, and to the expense during the past six months; and the accounts of the Agent exhibit a large balance to the credit on the books of the Comptroller, notwithstanding the low rate at which contracts have been, of late, and the pressure to which all industrial enterprises have been subjected.

MAKING PRISONERS OF WITNESSES.

There is great wrong involved in the operation of our existing law for the detention of witnesses. Under its provisions, the person who has been unfortunate as to witness the perpetration of a murder, and who is unable to give bonds to testify to the facts in the case, is seen to be the accusing witness, the same day, and the same hour, as he who is charged with the commission of the crime. Surely the ends of public justice cannot be deemed so gross an invasion of individual rights. That a usage so unjust should have obtained, and continued until now, a fact that upon our criminal code, reflects little credit upon our progressive civilization, and furnishes but a feeble illustration of the maxim: "Law is the protection of innocent persons." I urge that to direct your attention to this injustice, will be an honor to secure to its removal, by such modifications in the law authorized, as will reconcile the rights of the individual with the interests of the public.

My immediate predecessor, in his last Annual Message, recommended that a portion of the canal tolls be appropriated, during the period of the canal enlargement, for the relief of the State Treasury, by leaving unpaid "all tolls over and above the sum, to accrue, as a reward for industry and economy, to those portion of their earnings, for the benefit of themselves or their families. This would be calculated to animate them with hope—to encourage habits of foresight and prudence, and to enable them to assist their families, would enhance the better interests of their nature. It would also give, they, at the expiration of their terms of service, more money unless of expense until they could more easily overcome the difficulties of obtaining employment, in numerous instances, discharged themselves and led to numerous instances, discharged themselves and led to the commission of crime by the poverty and want consequent upon the protracted delay of their earnings. Humanity and justice alike demand some change. Humanity and justice alike demand some change. Humanity and justice alike demand some change. Humanity and justice alike demand some change. This recommendation has come to us from public

[illegible]

EXECUTIVE PARDONS.

[illegible]

THE HOUSE OF REFUGE.

The House of Refuge in New-York has been, during the past year, conducted with its usual efficiency and success. Some two months since, the Institution was removed to the new building recently erected on Randall's Island, which will give it much ample accommodation than it has hitherto enjoyed, and thus enable it to extend its operations and increase its usefulness. The managers design, as soon as they are enabled to do so, to erect an additional building for the female department. Until this is done, the contemplated system of classification, and separation cannot be carried out. It is intended that the new building shall be of sufficient capacity to accommodate two hundred and fifty inmates, and the importance of its early construction will be evident, from the fact that this is the only Reform School in the State for girls, receiving them from all the counties. It receives boys from nearly half the State.

Four hundred and thirteen children of both sexes have been admitted during the year; three hundred and eighty-three have been indentured; there now remain in the Institution 243 boys and 75 girls—total 318. The whole number admitted since its [illegible] 4,061.

The Western Institution at Rochester seems, also, [illegible] in a prosperous condition. Its present number of inmates is 262; its sanitary state is satisfactory; there is a general compliance with its discipline on the part of the boys; and the moral results justify the most sanguine hopes of its friends. The appropriation made last year for the erection of an additional wing and for the furnishing of the same, has been almost half expended. The new wing has been completed, and occupied, and will be ready for occupancy by the first of July. Some additional aid may be required from the State to furnish it, and also for the completion of gas works for lighting the entire Institution. The Report of the Managers, detailing more fully the condition of the Institution, will be laid before you at an early day.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The State Lunatic Asylum, at Utica, is nobly fulfilling the purpose of its establishment, and justifying the confidence of the public in its official management. The whole number of patients treated during the past year is 836; of these, 446 were in the Institution at the commencement of the year, and 390 have been subsequently admitted. The Asylum is estimated, can accommodate 440; the average number resident during the year has been 416. There are applications for admission have been in excess of room, and 51 unfavorable cases arise from want of room for more recent ones; showing a total of 156 to whom the benefits of the Institution could not be extended. Of these 836 treated during the year, 164 have been discharged recovered; 43 as improved, and 116 as unimproved, discharged, 326; remaining at the close of the year, 510. From the opening of the Asylum, to the present date, 4,213 patients have been admitted to its benefits; of whom 1,789 have been discharged as recovered.

The humane design of this Institution is fulfilled by all, it seems to be simple justice to remark that the excellent management is evidenced by the results, which must commend themselves to the favorable judgment of all. Since its opening, each succeeding year has demonstrated its increasing usefulness, and given it a hold upon the public regard. Through its agency, nearly two thousand of our fellow-beings, deprived of the inestimable gift of reason, without which all blessings lose their value, have been restored to soundness of mind, the delusions of insanity, and to their several callings in society. In numerous instances, full restoration was clearly beyond the reach of human skill; the sufferings of many have been greatly mitigated, and anxiety of their friends lessened. Thus, through its whole existence, has the Institution been a dispenser of blessings, great beyond the power of estimation. Its results have not only justified the Christian philanthropy that conceived, and the beneficent provision which established it, but the general sentiment of the community, that it is a charity, that has conferred honor upon our Common-wealth, for greater than could have been won through the expansion of her commerce, the increase of her wealth, or the addition to her purposes of the material forces of nature.

But, with the very fair and satisfactory results remain to be stated, that it is obvious that the State has not performed her whole duty towards her suffering children. If, during the past year, the Asylum at Utica has been compelled, for want of room, to reject one hundred and fifty-nine applicants for its benefits, can it be a matter of surprise, with an increase of cases for which no provision is made; and a wise foresight will suggest that, if proper measures be taken to remedy the evil, the efficiency of its means of accommodation will whose misfortunes give them a claim upon our sympathy and help. I do, therefore, respectfully recommend that the requisite steps be taken, by the Legislature, for the early enlargement of the Asylum at Utica, or the establishment of a similar Institution in another portion of the State. Both objects may be desirable; one or the other seems indispensable.

THE IDIOT ASYLUM.

I would commend to your attention the Report of the Trustees of the Idiot Asylum, which, since the establishment of the Legislature, has been located at Syracuse. The new building designed for the accommodation of this important charity, is already enclosed, and rapidly approaching its completion; but the appropriation of the State ($10,000) is expended, the pay of the contractors largely in arrears, and numerous applications for the admission of pupils pressing upon the Trustees. Under these circumstances, it is important that the means for the completion of the building, and for extending its benefits to all of that unfortunate class who may require them, be furnished without any unnecessary delay. I therefore recommend such appropriation for these purposes, as may be requisite to secure the earliest practical results contemplated by the House in the establishment of this Institution.

INSTITUTIONS FOR THE BLIND.

Applications will be made to the Legislature for further aid to the Institution of the Blind, which now feels the pressure consequent upon the general paralysis of business. Its manufacturing department, is designed to furnish employment, not only for the pupils, but also for the adult Blind connected with the Institution; but, from the causes already alluded to, there is little or no sale for the manufactures, and great pecuniary embarrassment is the necessary result. The usefulness of this Institution, and the beneficent provision which established it, be furnished without any unnecessary delay. I therefore recommend such appropriation for these purposes, as may be requisite to secure the earliest practical results contemplated by the House in the establishment of this Institution.

INSTITUTIONS FOR THE BLIND.

Applications will be made to the Legislature for further aid to the Institution of the Blind, which now feels the pressure consequent upon the general paralysis of business. Its manufacturing department, is designed to furnish employment, not only for the pupils, but also for the adult Blind connected with the Institution; but, from the causes already alluded to, there is little or no sale for the manufactures, and great pecuniary embarrassment is the necessary result. The usefulness of this Institution, and the beneficent provision which established it, be furnished without any unnecessary delay. I therefore recommend such appropriation for these purposes, as may be requisite to secure the earliest practical results contemplated by the House in the establishment of this Institution.

[illegible]

The number of pupils now under instruction is 300. Two-thirds of the same number are from this State; the rest of the counties are represented in their attitude, the State of New-Jersey, and the City and Province of New-York. The Institution is in a most flourishing condition, and its pupils are [illegible] in their studies. The State Library has, during the last year, received numerous and valuable donations from foreign Governments and various institutions in Europe. Through the presentation of our laws, the legislative documents, and the reports of our higher Courts, it interchanges with every State and Territory in the Union; while the donations of citizens from various portions of our own country, have been frequent and liberal. Last year, the usual date of appropriations for the purchase of books, and for binding those received was changed from the 1st of January to the 1st of October, the commencement of our fiscal year. No provision was made for the interim, and this has proved a source of difficulty in relation to existing contracts and purchases. I am assured that the supply of this deficiency (for nine months, according to the usual annual appropriation) will be sufficient to meet every demand; I, therefore, recommend a grant for the same.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Among the subjects which will require your attention there is none of more importance than the system of public education of the State. The magnitude of this interest has always been felt and appreciated by the people, and the State has shown from the earliest period of its existence, an earnest desire to provide the means for the adequate instruction of all the children within its limits. For a long time the system pursued was based on the assumption that education was mainly a matter of personal interest, and that the duty of providing it devolved exclusively upon parents; the instruction of the children of those whose poverty would not permit them to incur the expense of it themselves, being made to depend upon public charity. The inefficiency of this policy, its failure to accomplish the object aimed at, and especially its direct tendency to create distinctions hostile to the spirit and character of our institutions, led to its abandonment; and a system, based upon the principle that the State is even more deeply and permanently interested in the education of its children than their parents, and that the expense of providing it should be borne by the aggregate of the property within its limits, was adopted in its stead. Under the existing law, therefore, the State assumes the charge of public education,—committing its direction to local officers and paying the cost of it out of its own treasury. The system is comparatively new, and some practical defects are as yet exhibited in its workings; but they are such as spring chiefly from the failure to give full and complete development to its fundamental principles, and may easily be remedied by judicious legislation. The system itself is believed to be thoroughly rooted in the confidence and favor of the people.

The whole amount of money apportioned by the Superintendent of Public Instruction is $1,035,000, of which $800,000 was raised by a general tax, and $235,000 from the income of the Common School and United States Deposite Funds. The whole amount expended for public schools is $2,606,609 36, of which $1,920,884 49 was applied to the payment of teachers, and $447,657 06 for the district libraries. The whole number of district schools reported for the year is 11,798; and the whole number of children in the State of the age required to draw public money, 1,186,709. There have been 977,301 in attendance upon the District Schools;—in Academies under the supervision of the Regents of the University, 37,406; 34,279 in unincorporated private schools, and 4,569 in colored schools. The average number of months during which the schools have been kept in the several districts is eight. The number of volumes in the District Libraries is 1,571,270.

These results exhibit a gratifying increase in the number attending the District Schools over the previous year. But it will still be seen that of the whole number of children of suitable age in the State there are 309,508, or nearly one-fourth of the whole number, who do not attend the District Schools, and 233,255, or about 20 per cent. of the whole number, who do not attend any school. In view of the provision that has been made for the express purpose of securing the education of all, this proportion is much too large, and indicates some defect in the system pursued, because it does not completely attain the object at which it aims. That it does not, may be partly due to the mode of distributing the public funds. By the existing law, two-thirds of the public funds are distributed among the various districts of the State in proportion to the whole number of children of a specified age within their limits, whether they attend the schools or not. If the apportionment of the public money were made to depend upon the number attending school and upon the regularity of their attendance, it would become the interest of the citizens generally to promote the regular attendance of all the children within their limits. An amendment of the law which should give it this direction would, I believe, tend to secure, more fully, the desired result. The law is defective, also, in that it fails to carry out fully and completely the principle on which it is based. Education in the District Schools is not yet entirely free. If the cost of the schools in any district exceeds the amount of money received from the State, the deficiency is made up by a rate-bill, assessed upon those who send their children to school; and those who are unable to pay their assessment are relieved at the public expense, and thus become the recipients of public charity. The worst element of the old system is thus preserved, and the fundamental principle of the new law fails of its application in its most essential point. Education is still regarded as a matter of charity and not of right; and so long as this continues to be the case, in any degree or to any extent, it will detract from the full measure of usefulness which the system is designed to secure. This evil in the system can be remedied, only by making the schools entirely free.

The attention of the Legislature should also be directed to measures for improving the character of the schools, for increasing their efficiency, and for elevating and extending the instruction which they impart. In a State where every citizen should take an active interest in the administration of public affairs, and may be called on to perform the highest duties of public life, it is important that popular education be carried to the highest point which the means of the State will allow. It has been objected to the system of Free Schools, that people do not prize that which costs them nothing, and that relieving individuals from the expense of educating their children, will diminish their interest in the subject, and lead them to relax the vigilance which is essential to the highest excellence in the public schools. There is undoubtedly some force in the suggestion, though experience shows that it is much less than is sometimes supposed. But whether it be more or less, it is entitled to consideration, and provision should be made for obviating the objection in any system of education which the State may adopt. An obvious mode of doing this is by means of an active and intelligent supervision, by which the schools shall be regularly visited and their discipline examined by competent officers selected for that purpose. Various attempts have been made to supply this, but none of them have hitherto proved entirely successful. The agency provided by the present law is that of town superintendents; but it is found more expensive, and less efficient than is desirable, and gives rise to local dissensions, injurious to the successful working of the general system. Similar objections led to the abandonment of the system of inspectors, a few years since. Unless the principle of visitation can be more effectually secured with entire economy, and made more acceptable and effective than it has been hitherto, the end which it is designed to secure must be sought by other means.

The connection of our Common Schools with the higher institutions of learning—with Academies and Colleges—making them all, in fact, parts of one great system,—could not fail to contribute greatly to their elevation. Among the most [illegible] of all, is the City of New-York, where the Free School system of the State has been [illegible] completely realized from infancy [illegible] results of a [illegible] system, in which a large [illegible] professors and tutors, has been provided, a plan of study extending over five years and embracing all the branches of study pursued in the best colleges of the country has been adopted, scientific apparatus, libraries, and all the aids requisite for study, have been furnished, and the general discipline and course of instruction have been made in all respects of the highest and most efficient character. Pupils who shall have attended any of the District Schools for eighteen months—maintained throughout a good standing and character, and passed a satisfactory examination in certain specified studies, are admitted to the Academy and entitled to the full enjoyment of its advantages, free of all expense. The Academy has been in operation only three or four years, and the average number of its students is over four hundred. The attendance shows that its benefits are fully appreciated. But besides the thorough and most useful instruction conferred upon so large a number of the children and youth of the community, its most marked advantages are seen in the influence which it exerts upon the Common Schools—stimulating their teachers, trustees, inspectors and pupils alike to a generous rivalry, increasing their vigilance and their industry and rendering them zealous and emulous in sending the best pupils to the Academy, whose facilities for education are the prize for which all may alike contend. While I am aware that large cities afford facilities for such a system, which cannot be fully enjoyed in the rural districts, I think that something may be done throughout the State in this direction. A voluntary beginning, indeed, has already been made in some sections, by the establishment of Union Schools; and their success shows that the system is not wholly impracticable. I think that the time has come when higher purposes and broader views may be entertained in regard to our system of State education; and that our Academies may be brought into a more direct and immediate connection with the general plan, and thrown more widely and more freely open to the advantages they are intended to confer. The character of their instruction should be elevated and its range extended; and they should be more completely furnished with apparatus and the means of imparting knowledge in those sciences which are of the most service in practical life. By making free admission to the thorough and complete education they would then afford, the reward of excellence in our District Schools, a stimulus would be furnished which could not fail to be felt beneficially upon their discipline and character. It would be highly desirable to bring the Colleges of the State into harmonious connection with such a plan, so that they might become more directly recognized as members of our general system of State education and as essential to its completeness and perfection.

OUR EXCISE LAWS.

The subject of the revision of our Excise Laws will demand, and I doubt not will receive your serious attention. To the practical operation of these laws, either through their inherent viciousness, or in consequence of their lax administration, is attributed no small proportion of the drunkenness which afflicts our land. Something of this is undoubtedly attributable to the non-enforcement of our laws, such as they are; but I will not withhold my conviction that the laws themselves are radically defective, and however faithfully administered, must be held justly responsible for the evils which they foster, and in many instances create.

If the consequences of intemperance were confined to its immediate victims, though even then the State would have an interest at stake, there might, perhaps, be less occasion for Legislative action. But such is not the fact. Every interest of society which it is the province of Government to protect, is, immediately or remotely, involved in these consequences.

Intemperance deprives the State of the productive energy of thousands of her citizens, and so far diminishes its wealth, impedes its enterprise, and militates against the common good. It is a fruitful source of the pauperism which imposes heavy burdens upon industry and capital; and its intimate relation to crime, and consequently to the burdens which crime imposes upon us, is too obvious to escape your observation. If the purely moral aspects which it presents shall be deemed as not entering within the scope of your duties, its relation to taxation, and its producing causes, is clearly within the province of legislation, and demands a degree of attention corresponding to the great issues which that relation involves.

The right to legislate in reference to the traffic in intoxicating liquors, will not be denied. Our present Excise System is the fruit of such legislation. It has, in the process of time, undergone many modifications, but its restrictive element, throughout all these changes, has been retained, in subservience to the original purpose of the system, viz:—the prohibition of the traffic so far as the public good may demand and the constitutional limitations of the law-making power will permit. All restrictive legislation contains the germ of prohibition—is, in fact, prohibition partially applied; so that what is termed prohibitory legislation in regard to the liquor traffic, is only the extension of a principle endorsed as sound by successive Legislatures, and its impartial application to all. The object proposed by the founders of our State, when they incorporated the license system into its legislation, has not yet been attained; neither has the constitutional power of the Legislature in reference to it, yet been exhausted. With the utmost desire to reach right conclusions in relation to this matter, and to guard against the assumption of powers not conferred by our fundamental law, I have found myself unable to come to any other result than this—that the legislative prohibition of the traffic in intoxicating drinks is not only demanded as a measure of protection to the health, the property, and the lives of our fellow-citizens, but that it is also distinctly indicated by the nature and purpose of civil government, and clearly within the limits of its constitutional powers. These opinions, diffidently entertained at first, have been wrought into convictions by a careful study of the limitations and duties of the law-making power, by judicial decisions, nearly or remotely affecting the principle involved, which have been had in the several States that prohibit the traffic in question, and by the dicta of the Supreme Court of the United States, which cover the whole ground in controversy, and leave little room for either cavil or doubt.

That the good results hoped for from the legislation recommended, are legitimate to it, several of the New-England States, especially Maine and Connecticut, furnish the most gratifying evidence. The steady diminution of crime and pauperism in the States referred to, with a consequent and corresponding reduction of taxation; and the new impulse given to almost all industrial pursuits by the transformation of those who were once a burden upon the State, into producers of wealth, constitute an argument in favor of the policy advocated, which, while it carries conviction to the statesman, will be no less appreciated by the multitude, unskilled though they may be in casuistry, but also undebased by appetite and unperverted by interest. If anything is to be learned from the example of other States, or to be deduced from our own increased experience, it should be made available to our use;—and our legislation, upon all subjects, should keep pace with our advancing intelligence, always expressing the highest truth we have received, and reaching forward to the greatest good attainable.

I know of no subject that is likely to elicit your attention, that involves graver and more momentous interests, than the one thus presented for your consideration. That it is hedged about by difficulties, which demand the exercise of great prudence, and that it may not always be easy to reconcile conflicting interests with a nice adjustment of the scales of justice, I am not disposed to deny. But, guided by the purpose for which Government was ordained, and keeping steadily in view the well-being of society, which always rests on a moral basis, these difficulties will disappear or be overcome; and you will be able, I trust, so to perfect the details of a Bill as, on the one hand, to secure the suppression of a demoralizing traffic, and, on the other, to protect personal rights and give no just cause of complaint to those whose interests may be affected by the prohibitory legislation which the higher interests of the community demand.

USURY LAWS.

It is already intimated that the efforts heretofore made to modify our Usury laws will be renewed with the present Legislature. The idea of free trade in money, pervades the commercial community. Money, it is urged, relieved from the restraints of usury laws, would become plentiful and cheap. It is worthy of remark, however, that the argument proceeds, generally, from the lender rather than the borrower of money. And does not this argument guess either too little or too much? If money is to be made free, should there not be equal freedom on the part of those who exchange their labor, and the produce of labor, for money? If a pecuniary value is given, by law, to coin and bank paper, why not value for, by law, the [illegible] of labor, so that [illegible] and labor may [illegible] on equality? [illegible] money [illegible] capital to [illegible] while [illegible] obtaining capital [illegible] If, [illegible] be relieved [illegible] legislative [illegible] not also be [illegible] of the power conferred by legislation? [illegible] our laws stamp extrinsic [illegible] upon coin, may not laws, with equal justice and propriety, declare what rate of interest may be demanded and received for its use? And while legislation permits associations and individuals to circulate their paper promises to pay, as money, is it not clearly a duty to limit the rate of usance upon these? Before declaring gold and silver, and their paper representative, free, it would, in my judgment, be incumbent upon Government to assimilate money to the products of labor, by depriving gold, silver, and bank-notes of their artificial value. Then, and then only, may money be safely left, like the products of labor, to be regulated by the laws of trade.

The experience of other countries and older nations, where capital is more abundant and seeks investment at moderate rates of usance, is referred to for evidence that free trade in money is beneficial to the community. This argument may become applicable to our condition, when capital bears the same relation to enterprise and industry in this country that it does in Europe. But while the laboring and producing classes predominate so largely, it becomes us, instead of relaxing usury laws, to provide for their more rigid execution. Indeed, the most valid objection to these laws is found in their lax administration. While respected by law-abiding citizens, and by cautious and timed usurers, they are disregarded by those who either hope to evade them, or who rely upon the honor or necessity of borrowers. A law either more or less stringent, against usury, if its enforcement could be ensured, would be productive of salutary effects.

The argument relied upon by the advocates of repeal, is, that it will make money cheaper. But wherever this experiment has been tried, in our country, the opposite effect has been produced. Even in our commercial metropolis, where are found those who are most strenuous on this subject, that description of paper supposed to be exempted from the taint of usury can be negotiated only at rates of interest varying from 12 to 24 per cent. per annum. Borrowing at this onerous rate, leads to almost certain ruin. It may be answered that only in times of pressure are the rates of interest so high. But what, if the power to regulate the whole question resides with capitalists, is to bring down the rates? What is to make money more plentiful and cheap, when those who possess it have the power to keep it scarce and dear? There is a given amount of capital among us, seeking investment. If our laws rigidly prohibited the taking of more than the legal rate of interest, that capital would be available for all legitimate business purposes. If loans are made reluctantly at legal rates, it is because usurious ones may be obtained, through the violation or evasion of the laws.

The Legislature of 1850, in accordance with a then prevalent sentiment, awakened by the avoidance of a large debt by an incorporated Bank, under the plea of usury, passed a law restraining incorporations from pleading usury. This in my opinion, was a change in the wrong direction. Evils have resulted from that change which are now seriously embarrassing the whole business community. Stimulating at once enterprise and cupidity, that enactment has prompted improvements far too formidable for our means. Impatient for railroads, our citizens, mistaking confidence for capital, have involved themselves and the country in a fearful aggregate of indebtedness. In their zeal to hasten the construction of railroads, time, circumstances, cost, and even their value when completed, have often been disregarded. The question in too many instances seems to have been, not whether the roads were needed, or would pay when constructed, but whether bonds could be negotiated, at no matter what rate of discount. This policy has thrown millions of depreciated railroad securities upon the market, at home and abroad, and now the reaction leaves us with thousands of miles of unfinished roads, and a stringent money pressure, operating injuriously upon all the business interests of the State. The expediency, therefore, of repealing the law which restrains corporations from pleading usury, is respectfully suggested.

RAILROAD POLICY.

The policy of constructing Railroads by mixing credit with capital, though to a degree useful and safe, has grown into an abuse. Mortgage bonds, when protected by a solid stock basis, may be properly resorted to for the completion of legitimate enterprises. But when, as in too many instances, Companies issue bonds greatly exceeding the amount of capital paid in, the consequences cannot fail to prove injurious. The Legislature will, doubtless, impose such restrictions, in this respect, as experience suggests and the general welfare demands.

Connected with our Railway system is another feature of great, but delicate, interest. In their laudable desire to avail themselves of the advantages of such improvements, cities, villages and towns have loaned their credit to Railroad Companies. This is a power which should be sparingly granted by the Legislature, and cautiously exercised by the people. Though in some instances safe, yet, as a general rule, it is better to leave these projects to the enterprise and responsibility of individuals. The experience of the State, in this respect, is not at all calculated to commend the policy.

THE BOARD OF BROKERS A POWER IN THE STATE.

The Board of Brokers in the City of New-York, though self-constituted, and practically a close corporation, has grown to be a Power in the State, exerting a potent influence over all its monetary affairs, and seriously affecting the pecuniary interests of the people of our own and of other States. The standard of value for public securities, whether National, State, Municipal, or Corporative, is fixed by that Board. That there should be an ascertained, reliable market value for such securities, is readily admitted; and Brokers, in this, as in other countries, are the recognized agents for their sale.

But the *bona fide* transfer of stocks has ceased to be the only, or even the most considerable, item of the business of Brokers. Time sales of securities constitute by far the largest element in the daily operations of the Board. Many of the stocks and bonds quoted daily, though intrinsically worthless, derive and maintain a factitious value, until, by the adroitness and collusion of parties interested, the purposes of their creation are answered, and then, like their equally worthless predecessors, disappear, to give place to other schemes as dishonest in inception and as fraudulent in design. The services of Brokers are frequently required, and from some of their number readily obtained, to depreciate the value of undoubted securities, or to advance the price of bubble shares.

These evils, however, would be comparatively limited in extent, and less alarming in tendency, but for that feature in the operations of the Board to which I have alluded. Its practice of time sales of securities—a practice which now prevails to an alarming extent—fosters and stimulates a wide-spread spirit of gambling. This spirit pervades all classes. It is rife in our cities, and is abroad throughout the country. As in the case of lotteries before their suppression, the temptation which promises large and easy gains, not only excites the hopes of the sanguine, but too frequently overcomes the caution of the prudent. Disastrous failures in legitimate business are often traceable to wild and reckless time operations in stocks. And most of the frauds and defalcations which impair the credit of monied Institutions and destroy confidence in the integrity of individuals, owe their origin to the same pernicious cause.

It is not alleged nor supposed that the Board of Brokers, as such, is composed of men of exceptionable character. On the contrary, it is the high personal respectability and the influential position of the members of the Board, that has so long secured toleration and impunity for transactions as vicious in principle and so destructive in practice.

In view, therefore, of an abuse of such magnitude, and of consequences so injurious, I deem it my duty to submit to the Legislature the propriety of passing a law so far reforming and restraining the traffic in public securities as to divest it of this pernicious feature. It is the conceit that these transactions are, by our present laws, illegal. The evil can only be eradicated by providing adequate penalties. An Association whose financial influence is greater even than that of the Government; that has the power to appreciate this, and to depress that class of securities; and to which so large a body of citizens pay tribute, should be required so to conduct its operations as neither to retard the general welfare nor relax the public morals.

THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE.

There is reason, in apprehend, unless some further and more efficient safeguards are thrown around the elective franchise, especially in our cities, that the ballot-boxes will cease to reflect the popular will. Each succeeding election discovers renewed cause of alarm, in combinations to defraud the people, and too frequently are its dictates, with the knowledge and connivance of those whose official duty it is to preserve the integrity of the ballot-box. Such combinations [illegible] depressed by those who have [illegible] would [illegible] of the south of [illegible] all the [illegible] But it [illegible] of the Election Districts of the City of New-York is supposed to depend less upon the sentiments and intentions of the Electors, than upon the machinations of Inspectors. Frauds of this nature strike at the foundation of our time cherished A Representative Government cannot endure, even if it were worth preserving, when the intention of the ballot-box comes to be habitually violated. I cannot doubt, therefore, that a subject of such vital importance will be regarded as worthy of your consideration.

SLAVERY.

A controversy is pending in our Courts of law between this State and the State of Virginia, which, from the importance of the principles involved, and the extent to which its decisions will affect the right of this State to regulate its own domestic affairs, requires your attention. The facts out of which it arose are these: In the month of November, 1852, one JONATHAN LEMMON, a citizen of Virginia, brought into the City of New-York eight persons whom, by the laws of Virginia, he held as slaves, and with whom, as he alleged, he was on his way to Texas. They were brought, on a writ of habeas corpus, before one of the Justices of the Supreme Court, who decided that, by virtue of the laws of New-York, they were entitled to their freedom. They were accordingly discharged, and immediately removed to Canada, thus placing themselves beyond the jurisdiction of both our State and our Federal laws. The sum of $5,000 was raised by voluntary contribution among the citizens of New-York to indemnify Mr. LEMMON for his loss. So far as individual interests were involved, although an appeal from the Judge's decisions had been taken on behalf of the claimant, the case would have been terminated by these proceedings. But the Governor of Virginia, in a special communication dated December 17, 1852, called the attention of the Legislature of that State to this decision, which he characterized as "contrary to the spirit of law, as opposed to the established principles which regulate intercourse with foreign nations, and at war with the relations which should subsist between the sister States of this Union, as well as at war with the spirit if not the letter of the Constitution itself." The Governor further recommended that provision should be made by the State for the efficient prosecution of the appeal which had been taken, and for "such other judicial proceedings as might be found necessary and proper for a satisfactory adjustment of the important question involved in this case." In accordance with this recommendation, the Legislature of Virginia subsequently directed the Attorney General of that State to prosecute the appeal, with such other counsel as the Executive might think proper to associate with him. That appeal has not yet been heard, but will probably be argued at the next general term of our Supreme Court.

The language of the law of this State—which declares that "no person held as a slave shall be imported, introduced or brought into this State on any pretence whatever," and that "every such person shall be free,"—is so explicit as to obviate all doubt in regard to its meaning. Its operation can be resisted, therefore, only upon the ground that it is contrary to the Constitution of the United States, or to the law of international comity. The law of nations would undoubtedly permit the citizens or subjects of one country to pass through another country with their property—but only with property recognized as such by the same law. Slaves are property only by virtue of local law; where that ceases to have jurisdiction, they cease to be property, and cannot be recognized or treated as such. If the decision of this question rested, therefore, upon the principles of international law—which is the only rule of international comity—I see nothing hostile to those principles in the law of this State, which applies to this case.

But the several States of this Union do not hold to each other the relation of independent powers. The law which regulates their intercourse and controls their conduct towards each other, is the Federal Constitution. By the provisions of that instrument, every State is left entirely free to make such laws in reference to its local institutions as it may see fit. To this there is but one exception. It declares that "no person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor." Every State is thus prohibited from enacting any law or regulation by which fugitives from service which is due under the laws of the State from which they may escape, shall be discharged from that service. The State of New-York has always respected this prohibition, as well as the right of Virginia and of every other State to legalize and regulate Slavery within their own jurisdiction. But she claims equal sovereignty over her own domestic institutions, and the same right of declaring upon what conditions Slavery may be allowed, or whether it shall be allowed at all, within her limits. If this right be denied her, she will be deprived of the most essential attributes of sovereignty—that of deciding upon the civil conditions and securing the personal rights of those who may be brought under the protection of her laws.

It seems to me highly important that a question which involves, to so great an extent, the dignity, and the rights of this State, should not be decided without a full and careful examination. At present no provision exists for defending the law of this State against the State of Virginia, either in our own Courts or in the Federal Courts to which the case will undoubtedly be carried if a decision against the law should not otherwise be obtained. I recommend, therefore, the adoption of a resolution directing the Attorney General, together with such counsel as may be associated with him, to defend the rights and the interests of this State in the appeal that has been taken.

OUR RELATIONS TO THE FEDERAL UNION.

Having thus briefly brought to your notice those domestic interests which will demand your attention, it only remains for me to speak of our relations to the Federal Union, of which the State of New-York, by its population and its wealth, constitutes an important part. The powers and duties of the General Government are defined and limited by the Constitution, and relate to those objects only in which all the members of the Confederacy have a common interest. But its action not unfrequently affects our domestic prosperity, as well as our political rights, and may, therefore, very properly, be made the subject of our review.

THE VETO.

It is to be regretted that the Executive Veto should have been again interposed to prevent the necessary improvement of the great channels of internal Commerce; for not only would their unimpeded navigation constitute a source of material wealth, but would also give strength and durability to the bonds of our National Union. The States, by relinquishing the power of levying taxes upon Commerce, have divested themselves of the ability to do this work; the duty of its performance, therefore, by the General Government, seems obvious and imperative.

THE TARIFF.

Many branches of domestic industry are languishing for lack of that protection which proper Tariff regulations would afford; and which, had they been seasonably adopted, would have averted much of the distress consequent upon a paralysis of business, which now pervades the country.

TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS.

Congress, at its last session, passed an act establishing governments for the portion of the territory acquired from France in 1803, which remained unorganized; and in that act was embodied a repeal of the law, generally known as the Missouri Compromise, by which Slavery was prohibited from that territory forever. This prohibition grew out of the agitation in reference to the admission of Missouri as a Slave State, and was supposed to involve concessions from both parties to the controversy. By the terms of the compact then entered into—for such it was, in fact, whatever it might have been in form—Missouri came into the Union with her Slavery, and all territory north of the parallel of 36° 30' was left without any restriction as to the character of its institutions; while on the other hand it was solemnly contracted that all north of that parallel should be forever exempted from the curse of Slavery. The act of Congress embodying this compact, though doubtless subject to the control of the legislative power, carried with it, both in character and in the circumstances under which it was adopted, a solemn pledge of permanency. It was the result of a conflict between antagonistic interests and principles; and yet, strange as it may seem, the North acquiesced for two years. I cannot doubt that both sections were influenced by a patriotic desire to preserve the integrity of the Union and the peace of the country. The Compromise was, at the time, universally acknowledged to be a fair one. It was, in fact, a concession by the North, which, at the time, [illegible] benefits she was to derive from it were distant and remote, while those which were to result to the South were immediate and contingent. Still, however, it averted scenes of danger, and involved a principle [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

INAUGURATION OF THE MAYOR.

The Common Council and the City and County Officers Sworn in.

Inauguration of the two Branches of the Common Council.

A large number of citizens were in attendance at the City Hall on Monday to witness the inauguration of the newly elected Mayor, and to be present when the two branches of the City Legislature commenced their respective sessions.

A large police force was present, and so many were admitted than could be comfortably accommodated.

The inauguration of Mayor Wood took place in the Mayor's office.

As the 12 o'clock Mayor WOODWARD intimated that the time having arrived when his term of office expired, he would proceed to duly qualify his successor. Mr. WOOD then stepped forward and received the oath of office from Mayor WOODWARD. The oath is as follows:

"You do solemnly swear that you will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of New-York, and that you will faithfully discharge the duties of Mayor of the City of New-York to the best of your ability."

Mayor WOOD then signed his oath of office, after which he received the numerous congratulations of his friends.

Board of Aldermen.

The members of the Board of Aldermen standing over and the newly elected members, assembled at the Chamber of the Board at 12 o'clock on Monday. The Board was called to order by D. T. VALENTINE, Esq., Clerk. Mayor WOOD then took the Chair and proceeded to administer the oath of office to the following gentlemen, recently elected members of the Board:

Ward.		Ward.
1.	JONAS W. BROWN,	13. JOHN H. BRIGGS.
2.	SAMUEL H. MOSES,	15. ISAAC O. BARKER.
3.	HENRY E. HOFFMAN,	17. NATHAN C. ELY.
5.	CHARLES FOX,	19. AMOS HENRICK.
9.	PETER F. VOORHIS,	21. GEORGE W. VARIAN.
11.	ABE E. SUTTON,	

Alderman HENRICK then moved that the Board be temporarily organized by appointing Alderman JAMES KELLY as temporary President.

Alderman WILLIAMSON moved to amend by substituting the name of Alderman PETER F. VOORHIS, which was lost.

The original motion was then put and carried by a vote of 20 Ayes to 2 Nays.

Alderman KELLY then took the Chair.

Alderman WAKEMAN then moved that DAVID T. VALENTINE, Esq., be declared reelected to the position of Clerk of the Board, which motion was carried unanimously.

Alderman HENRICK then moved that the Board proceed to ballot for a permanent President of the Board, which motion was carried.

Alderman WILLIAMSON and HENRICK were appointed tellers.

On the first ballot the vote stood as follows:

CHARLES G. ELY, (Whig)	10
JONAS W. BROWN, (Hard)	8
ISAAC O. BARKER, (Whig)	4
Total	22

The President declared that there not being a majority for either of the candidates, there was no election.

A sharp discussion here ensued upon the decision of the Chair—Aldermen WAKEMAN and LONG contending that, except where a rule to the contrary was first laid down, the ordinary common law parliamentary rule that a plurality vote was sufficient to elect, must prevail. Aldermen HENRICK, DRAKE, HOWARD, and others, contended that the usage of the Board had always been to elect a President by a majority of the votes of the Board.

An appeal from the decision of the Chair being taken, the Board decided to sustain the Chair by a vote of 12 Ayes to 10 Nays.

The Board then proceeded with the balloting. On the second and third ballots the vote stood the same as on the first. On the fourth ballot Alderman BARNEY was declared elected President of the Board for the ensuing year.

The following was the vote:

C. G. ELY,	9
JONAS W. BROWN	1
ISAAC O. BARKER	10
Total	20

On motion the temporary President appointed Aldermen ELY and BROWN a Committee to conduct the President to the Chair.

On taking his seat, President BARNEY made some introductory remarks.

On motion of Alderman HOWARD, the Clerks and Sergeant-at-arms were unanimously reelected to their respective positions.

On motion the Chair appointed Aldermen WOODWARD and HOWARD a Committee to announce the organization of the Board of Aldermen to the Board of Councilmen.

The following message of Mayor WOOD was received by the Board and on motion was read:

To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of New-York:

GENTLEMEN: In assuming the duties of Chief Magistrate of the great City I am conscious of its responsibilities and restrictions. I shall endeavor to supply my want of experience and knowledge by an entire devotion to the public interests, and hope, by a faithful discharge of my official trusts, to merit the approbation and receive the support of your Honorable Body and my fellow citizens.

The period is not an inopportune time to commence a new administration. It is beyond the ability of any man, executing the duties of this office under the City charters, to give the people that government which appears to be universally expected, and which is certainly so much required.

Howsoever we may differ as to the cause, there can be no doubt of a pervading dissatisfaction with the municipal affairs of this City; that this feeling exists, and that there are sufficient grounds for it, all must admit; whether it arises from defects in the fundamental laws or from improper local legislation, or from maladministration upon the part of those entrusted with the executive duties, are questions upon which there is diversity of opinion; in my judgment all of these are the causes.

The amended charter of 1849 was preferable to the previous system. Admitting that it required modification, the subsequent amendments have but increased the difficulties.

The allegation that it was inadequate to the fair expression of wishes of the City, was in my opinion entirely without foundation.

The Constitution of the United States is as applicable to the present exigencies of the Republic as it was to the Federal Union at the time of its adoption. Had such amendments been made to it at the instance of every party or statesman who deemed it insufficient, we should have fallen to the same condition as a nation that this City has as a corporation.

The mistake in disturbing the charter of 1849, was not only in the alterations thereof, but also in the introduction of an unduly spirit in the people, that what, by constitutional application to state legislation, have been taught to look to foreign remedies for domestic abuses.

These have not transferred to Albany which that could have been better cared for among ourselves; dissatisfied and repudiated counsels, that no power should be exercised which can be exercised by the people themselves. This principle should never be forgotten. It was faithfully adhered to by the framers of the national constitution. In all countries and in all ages, the utmost caution has been observed in granting to representatives the right or even ordinary legislation.

We cannot say, present the first instance in which a people voluntarily surrendered the power to form the organic laws, yielding that highest of all prerogatives to men who, once out of responsibility, are not chosen by our suffrages, who are neither our servants, do not understand our wants, and who, consequently, are liable to become the tools of designing men, seeking selfish or corrupt objects of their own to obtain.

Amendments to the charter of 1849, have, one after another, been adopted at Albany, until now, we are administering the government by portions of six different charters, which create nine Executive Departments, having nominal, doubtful, and conflicting powers, with heads elected by the people, not responsible to the people, and independent of the authority of the Mayor, or of any other authority; and beyond the reach of any, except that of impeachment by the Common Council, which never has been, and probably never will be exercised.

This irresponsibility has been productive of extravagance in expenditure, and negligence in the execution of the ordinances.

That, in the attempts to remedy defects by foreign aid, which could have been remedied at home, we have fallen into the error of supposing ourselves a community merely, ill-placed and unmanageable monster, which has to be fed by legislation, devoured by worse than locusts, corporations.

The City of New-York, indeed, has not much inducement to be a corporation. Powers with the several municipal departments are denied to me in some quarters; and the duties and responsibilities, neither the subordinates have not attempted disorganization, or political opposition to the duties of this office.

Without wishing to be understood as making any invidious comparisons, I may remark that some of those who have preceded me in this office, I cannot be permitted to question my powers and duties as I understand them, by a party who, in the organization of the Mayor have been by general consent, allowed not appertaining to the Government of this City, for several years, still there is sufficient left to the Chief Magistrate (the shadow between them now gone) and to have it cast a salutary check over the Whole City Government.

It is true, that through necessity, most of the Police Departments, are in not an practically, in the essential elements of authority, that of controlling the retention or removal of his own subordinates. The Chief of Police holds his office at the pleasure of the Mayor, that officer having been appointed during "good behavior," by the late Mayor and Board of Commissioners, under the law of 1844, which they construed to give that authority. He appointed his subordinates, and claims the Resident authorities in the service, not under the Police and regulations for its government. Of these regulations of power, as necessary to make an efficient police force, he is by law removed. Discretion can only be obtained and maintained by the firm hand of unrestricted power; besides, it is wrong in principle to make any public officer responsible for the acts of subordinates, who are placed beyond his individual power to remove.

These are some of the evils arising from the frequent application to State legislation for this City. Instead of adequate force of Government, easily understood, clear power of its officers so well defined that there could be no conflict or misunderstanding, we have one full of the opposite, and mixed up.

It is not my purpose, at this time, to indicate a remedy, though I cannot omit to add my belief that the most perfect form of government was that adopted by the framers of the Federal Constitution. The clear and simple provisions are equally applicable to municipal corporations, or to a nation of a hundred millions. The Mayor should be to the City, what the President is to the General Government. There should be corresponding executive departments, with heads selected by the Mayor, (subject to the confirmation of the Board of Aldermen,) who should have entire control, and be himself responsible to the people. The Mayor and Heads of Departments should meet in council, and have a general uniformity of action and cooperation with each other, in carrying out the laws and preserving the general interests of the City. Over the whole should govern the Chief Magistrate, who should have the ordinance power, which history teaches is the least dangerous, and the most positive for good.

Certainly we have suffered more from legislative assumptions, or misconduct of subordinates in authority, than from the tyranny or corruption of a chief ruler.

Precedent shows there is safety in the latter, not only in the exercise of authority for the public weal, but as a barrier against the wrong doings of the former. The stronger the head the more healthy the body; but if strength is taken away by diverting it to a multitude of heads, the whole becomes enervated, and unable to discharge its functions.

Concentration, with ample power, insures efficiency, because it creates one high responsible authority. Decentralization is subversive of all good Executive Government.

The want of concentration has been the prime cause of the immense load of taxation which we now bear. To compare the relative taxation per individual, under the charter of 1830, and that now existing, will prove this assertion.

In 1842, the amount raised by tax for the support of the City Government, was one million seven hundred and forty-seven thousand five hundred and sixteen dollars and fifty-nine cents; whereas, in 1853, it was five millions sixty-seven thousand two hundred and seventy-five dollars and sixty-nine cents, and this year it is nearly six millions; a startling increase. Need you be told that this addition of two hundred and fifty per cent, is the result of either corruption or wasteful extravagance, the natural consequence of irresponsibility?

And here let me diverge to remark that to tolerate prodigate outlays of the public money, while nearly one-fourth of our whole population are in want of the necessaries of life, is as shocking to humanity as it is injurious to a large and valuable class of our suffering fellow-citizens.

Surely we are admonished, that if this rate of taxation be continued, more of it should be devoted to the relief of the poor, whose industry bears most of its burdens, and who can now ringing into our ears their cries of distress. Labor was never so depressed as now. Employment is almost entirely cut off, and if pursued, its remuneration is totally inadequate, owing to the high price of articles of subsistence. The prices of labor and of food bear no relative equality.

In ordinary times of general prosperity capital possesses advantages over labor.

Capital can always protect itself, and it is only in periods of infection, when capital is directed to speculation in the products of labor, that the operative is appreciated, and his industry rewarded by competent compensation.

But now, when capital either timidly retreats, through fear, to the bank vaults, or is diverted to the opposition for gain, of those who employ labor, his condition is sad enough. Does it not behove us, not only individually, but in our corporate capacity, to throw aside our boldly forward to his relief?

This is the time to remember the poor!

Do we not owe industry everything? It is its products that has built up this great City.

Do not let it be said that labor, which produces everything, gets nothing, and dies of hunger in the midst, while capital, which produces nothing, gets everything, and pampers in luxury and plenty.

It is our duty to take and administer this government under the charters and laws as we find them, until a change is effected for the better. Valuable improvements can now be made, notwithstanding these objections to the charters. All the evils of which the people complain are not chargeable to wrong legislation. The Common Council will be more cautious in the passage of ordinances, especially those involving disbursements of money, holding that to the same charge as against the surplus, who for many years have hovered around the Executive; and if the Executive Bureaux will cooperate with me in the rigid enforcement of the laws, and prudently in restraining expense, and exacting a faithful performance of every contract, we may do much towards removing the present discontent.

Most assuredly the people pay enough for the better administration of their public affairs; and it has never appeared to me that they were unreasonable in their requirements.

They ask public order—the suppression of crime and vice—clean streets—the removal of nuisances and abolition of abuses—a restriction of taxation to the absolute wants of an economically administered government, and a prompt execution of the laws and ordinances. Let us endeavor to meet their expectations.

For myself, I desire to announce here, upon the threshold, that, as I understand and comprehend my duties and prerogatives, they leave me no alternative, without dishonor, but to assume a general control over the whole City Government, so far as protecting its municipal interests may demand it. I shall not hesitate to exercise even doubtful powers, when the honor or the interest of the public is abused.

The public good will be sufficient warrant to insure my action. Under this law I shall proceed, not doubting your concurrence and the support of the people, for whom the responsibility is assumed.

I have purposely omitted in this communication the usual recommendations and references to the affairs of the City. There are many prominent topics to which I will allude in another communication, to be made as soon as your body is organized and ready for business. I shall then make recommendations, which, if carried out, will reform many abuses, reduce the expenditure, and increase the revenue, without increased taxation. In the meantime, the usual annual reports will be made from the several departments, to which I ask your special attention.

With a hearty desire that in our separate spheres we may conduct the affairs of the City so as to merit a continuance of its greatness, and with confidence in the ability and devotion to the popular will which influences the several members of your honorable body, I commend its deliberations to the protection of that All-wise Providence, which will, no doubt, so conduct its councils, as to insure the prosperity and well-being of the whole community.

FERNANDO WOOD.

JAN. 1, 1855.

The Board then adjourned to Wednesday.

Board of Councilmen.

The newly elected Board of Councilmen convened on Monday at 12 M. at the Chamber of the Board, City Hall. FERNANDO WOOD, newly elected Mayor of the City, took the chairman's seat and proceeded to administer the oath of office. The Clerk called the roll and the members were duly sworn—ten at a time. The Mayor read the oath as follows: "You do severally swear, that you will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of New-York, and that you will faithfully discharge the duties of Councilmen of this City according to your best abilities."

COUNCILMEN ELECTED.

Ward.	Dist.	
I.,	1.	HENRY SMITH, *W.*
	2.	CHARLES GANNON, *H.*
II.,	3.	GIDEON CLIFTON, *W.*
III.,	4.	WILLIAM H. BEALS, *W.*
IV.,	5.	(Tied.)
	6.	BARTHOLOMEW HALT, *H.*
	7.	ANDREW OUSACK, *H.*
V.,	8.	JOSEPH A. JACKSON, *W.*
	9.	GEORGE A. BARNEY, *W.*
	10.	PETER M. SCHENCK, *H.* and *K. N.*
VI.,	11.	JOHN CLANCY, *H.*
	12.	MICHAEL C. DONOHE, *H.*
	13.	JAMES S. KEMPSHAL, *H.*
VII.,	14.	ERASTUS W. BROWN, *W.*
	15.	JOHN G. SELLY, *S.* and *H.*
	16.	ORLANDO GRAY, *Fusion.*
VIII.,	17.	HORATIO N. WILS, *W.* and *K. N.*
	18.	DAVID COLEMAN, *W.* and *K. N.*
	19.	THOMAS B. KINNEY, *W.* and *K. N.*
	20.	E. WAINWRIGHT, *S.*
IX.,	21.	H. F. SEE, *S.*
	22.	CHARLES V. HOLDEN, *S.*
	23.	C. S. MOORE, *S.*
	24.	ALFRED BRUSH, *S.* and *S.*
X.,	25.	HORATIO KING, *S.* and *W.*
	26.	JOEL W. MABIE, *W.*
	27.	JONATHAN FENDER, *S.* and *S.*
	28.	WILLIAM TAYLOR, *S.*
XI.,	29.	THOMAS G. VAN COTT, *W.*
	30.	THOMAS FERGUSON, *K. N.*
	31.	C. M. SAGORY, *S.* & *K. N.*
	32.	JOHN HART, *S.*
XIII.,	33.	WILLIAM FLOYD, *W.*
	34.	EDWARD F. MCCOMBERS, *H.*
	35.	[illegible] CHEEVER, *H.*
XIV.,	36.	P. BARNES, *H.*
	37.	THOMAS FARRELL, *C.*
	38.	HENRY H. BROWN, *C.*
XV.,	39.	WM. H. VERMILYE, *W.* & *S.*
	40.	OTIS D. SWAN, *W.*
	41.	C. W. SMITH, *W.*
XVI.,	42.	J. W. KENNEY, *W.*
	43.	ALEX S. MOORE, *S.* & *K. N.*
	44.	THOMAS DUNLAP, *S.*
	45.	S. M. HUSTEDE, *W.* & *S.*
XVII.,	46.	J. W. VAN SICKLEN, *W.*
	47.	BENJAMIN F. PINCKNEY, *W.*
	48.	J. LANNIGAN, *W.*
	49.	WILLIAM TRUDLOW, *W.*
	50.	(Tied.)
XX.,	51.	J. T. COLLINGWOOD, *W.* & *K. N.*
	52.	FRANCIS M. CURRY, *W.* & *K. N.*
	53.	DANIEL D. CONOVER, *W.* & *K. N.*
XXI.,	54.	J. WEBSTER, *W.* & *K. N.*
	55.	CHARLES H. HASWELL, *K.* & *S.*
XVIII.,	56.	WILLIAM M. BAYNES, *K.* & *W.*
	57.	FREDERICK C. MAYNES, *K.* & *W.*
XIX.,	58.	EDWAR MCGAHEY, *S.*
XXII.,	59.	J. C. WEBSELL, *K.* & *K. N.*
	60.	GEORGE W. JENKINS, *W.*

Councilman CLANCY moved that WILLIAM M. VERMILYE, of the Thirty-ninth District, be chosen President *pro tem.* of the Board. An amendment was offered to substitute the name of HORATIO KING, of the Twenty-fifth District. On the vote being taken Mr. KING received 25 votes and Mr. VERMILYE 28. Mr. VERMILYE was therefore declared elected, and with usual form was conducted to the Chair.

Councilman PINCKNEY moved that the Board proceed to the election of a permanent President, and that thirty-one votes constitute an election.

Councilman BARNEY thought that the Board before proceeding to any election, should resolve upon the adoption of some temporary rules of government.

Councilman GRAY offered an amendment that thirty votes constitute a choice.

Councilman PINCKNEY's motion prevailed. The Chairman appointed Councilman BARNEY and CLANCY, Tellers.

The following vote was declared:

Daniel D. Conover	29	Blank	1
Frederick E. Mather	30		
William V. Vermilye	4	Total	57

Councilman CONOVER was declared elected. Councilman JACKSON, SCHENCK and PINCKNEY were appointed by the Chair a Committee to conduct the President to his seat.

On taking his seat President CONOVER said:

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF COUNCILMEN: I thank you for the honor you have conferred, in having made choice of me to preside over your body during the ensuing year. It shall be my endeavor to discharge the duties placed upon me to the best of my abilities. I hope you may not be disappointed in the choice you have made, and that at the expiration of the year, those who preferred that some other should occupy my place, will not regret my having become an incumbent of the position which I now assume.

A great many of us have met in the last Board; some come here for the first time. The Board of the year just ended has had to labor under many difficulties. With few exceptions, none had ever been members of a legislative body before, and still a large amount of business in this term has been *transacted. Gentlemen, I repeat, it shall be my* effort to discharge my duties faithfully, impartially and justly.

On motion, the Board proceeded to an election of Clerk for the ensuing year. On the first ballot CHARLES F. MCCLENACHAN, Esq., was reelected without a dissenting vote.

On balloting for a Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. SLIPELL, the former incumbent, received the unanimous vote.

A Committee from the Board of Aldermen was announced, declaring their organization and readiness to receive communications.

The following Committees were appointed by the President to wait on the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to announce their organization and readiness to receive any communication it might be their pleasure to forward to their body: Councilmen Gray, Ridder, Reed, Vermilye and Mather, the Committee to wait on the Mayor; Councilmen Haswell, Pinckney, Brush, Holden and Brown, the Committee to wait on the Board of Aldermen.

On a ballot for Deputy Clerk for the ensuing year, JOHN A. TOWLE received 37 votes, and GEORGE E. RAYMOND 21. Mr. TOWLE was declared elected.

The Message of the Mayor was received and read by the Clerk. On motion, the same was ordered on file and a thousand copies printed for distribution.

Adjourned till Wednesday afternoon, at 5 o'clock.

Official Proceedings at the County Clerk's Office.

ON New-Year's morning Mr. RICHARD S. CONSOLLY, the County Clerk, was at his post to administer the oath of office to the newly-elected District-Attorney, City Judge, Recorder, and other recently-elected officials.

The following gentlemen were present at the Clerk's office, and severally subscribed their names to the customary oath of office:

District Attorney.—A. OAKEY HALL.
Recorder.—JAMES A. SMITH, Jr.
City Judge.—SIDNEY E. STUART.
Surrogate.—ALEXANDER W. BRADFORD.
Register.—JOHN J. DEANE.
Two Justices of the Marine Court.—MATTHEW T. BRENNAN, Second Judicial District; MICHAEL CONNOLLY, Seventh Judicial District; WILLIAM S. DAVISON, Eighth Judicial District.
Civil Justice.—THOMAS FERRIER, Seventh Judicial District.

CITY OFFICERS.

The incumbents of the offices of Governor of the Almshouse and Commissioner of Streets and Lamps are designated by the statute as "City Officers," consequently they are sworn in by the Chief Magistrate of our City. Mayor WOOD accordingly administered the usual oath to the following officials:

Governors of the Almshouse.—JOSEPH S. TAYLOR, (Whig and Native;) DANIEL F. TIERNANY, (Hard-Shell.)

Commissioner of Streets and Lamps.—JOSEPH E. EBLING, (Know-Nothing.)

The Ten Governors.

The Governors of the Almshouse held their first regular meeting of the year yesterday afternoon. The newly elected Governors, TIERNAN and TAYLOR, appeared and took their seats. Governors DRAPER, WEST, DUKE, DUGRO, SMITH and HENRY were also present. On motion, Governor SMITH was appointed temporary Chairman, after which the Board proceeded to the election of a President and a Secretary for the ensuing year. Governors DUKE and ——— were appointed tellers. On the first ballot for President, Governor DRAPER received 7 votes and Governor TOWNSEND 1, whereupon Governor DRAPER rose and declined the office to which he had been chosen for the sixth time. He alluded to his long connexion with the Board as its presiding officer, and to the uniform kindness and courtesy which had characterized the intercourse of all its members, past and present, with him and with each other. He felt satisfied that the Board had proved faithful to its trust, and its peculiar plan so eminently successful, that similar Boards were about to be established in the neighboring cities.

The Board then proceeded to ballot again for President, and Governor ISAAC B. TOWNSEND having received all the votes cast, (eight) was declared elected.

Governor DUKE was then, on the first ballot, unanimously elected Secretary of the Board.

The Secretary elect briefly thanked the Board for the honor done him.

Governor WEST, in a few remarks highly eulogistic of Governor DRAPER as a citizen, a Governor and presiding officer, moved for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board are hereby tendered our late President, SIMEON DRAPER, Esq., for the able, faithful and impartial manner in which the duties pertaining to the station he so satisfactorily filled, have been discharged by him.

Gov. DUKE took great pleasure in seconding the motion, and bore evidence to the faithfulness and unceasing devotion with which the late President had discharged his duties as a Governor.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

A communication was received from the Warden of the Alms-House, calling attention to the present over-crowded condition of that Institution. The subject was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Governor HENRY, TIERNAN, and TAYLOR.

A letter was received and read from Mayor WOOD, making to be furnished with copies of specifications and estimates of such financial work as shall be in, and made by, the Department, which seems of being prompt, or have not been complied, with the information in relation to the rate as might enable him to comprehend the obligation of the City and of the contractor in every instance.

Governor WEST said that Department was ever open to the inspection of the Mayor, or such others as might desire information in relation thereto, but he did not believe the Board was compelled to furnish copies of their contracts to the Mayor, or any other; he feared that the granting of the Mayor's request would lead to other similar requests, which might eventually be construed into a legal right.

Governor TIERNAN thought the Mayor had a perfect right, as head of the City Government, to ask for and receive the information desired.

After some further debate the subject, on motion of Governor WEST, was referred to the Corporation Attorney for his opinion as to the legal relations existing between the Mayor and the Board.

The requisition gives 3,726 as the number of inmates in the different institutions.

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IN BROOKLYN.

Organization of the Common Council of the Consolidated City of Brooklyn.

The members of the new Common Council elected under the charter of the consolidated city, assembled at the City Hall at 10½ A. M., Monday, Jan. 1, to organize.

LIST OF ALDERMEN.

The following is a correct list of the Aldermen of Brooklyn, elected under the Charter of Consolidation:

Ward.		
1.	John Carlton,	George L. Bennett.
2.	Edward Pell,	D. T. Leverich.
3.	Daniel P. Barnard,	Benj. F. Wardwell.
4.	Charles C. Fowler,	J. K. Oakley.
5.	W. W. Gardiner,	R. M. Whiting.
6.	J. E. Rasbrook,	Albert B. Capwell.
7.	C. M. Atwater,	Alden S. Crowell.
8.	Cornelius Bennett,	John V. Bergen.
9.	W. T. Mills,	W. H. Campbell.
10.	J. G. Clayton,	Smith Faucher.
11.	Edward T. Backhouse,	Wm. W. Walsh.
12.	Timothy Bannon,	Thos. Mulcahy.
13.	E. H. Huntley,	Jared Sparks.
14.	John Linsky,	George W. Baker.
15.	A. Cunningham,	Thos. Eames.
16.	John Mears,	Edwin S. Knight.
17.	E. S. Blank,	Job Davis.
18.	G. M. Troutman,	D. Lyster.

The hall was crowded to excess by citizens, who manifested much interest in the proceedings.

ALDEN S. CROWELL, of the Seventh Ward, was appointed Chairman *pro tem.*, when the roll was called and all the members answered to their names as being present.

A Committee of three was appointed to prepare rules for the government of the Board, which were subsequently reported and adopted.

The Board then proceeded to ballot for a President, which resulted in the choice of DANIEL P. BARNARD, Esq., of the Third Ward, by a vote of 20 to 16.

Alderman BARNARD was escorted to the President's Chair, when he addressed the Board; after which a Committee of two was appointed to wait upon his Honor Mayor LAMBERT, and inform him *that the Board was ready to receive any communication* from him. Soon after Mayor HALL appeared and read his Message.

MESSAGE OF MAYOR HALL.

After briefly adverting to the fact of his having been called nearly twenty-one years since to preside over the municipal affairs of Brooklyn, when with a population of 36,000 she first assumed the dignity of a city, Mayor HALL began his message by inquiring a detailed comparison between Brooklyn, Williamsburg and Bushwick, at the period alluded to and the same at present as included under one incorporate limit of the city of Brooklyn, 1855. Brooklyn, when first arrived to the majesty of an incorporated city, he stated, had but two Ferries, two Banks, two Insurance Companies, one Savings Bank, fifteen Churches and three Public Schools. There was no daily paper. The assessed value of the taxable property was $7,500,000, of which $6,437,199 consisted of real estate. Williamsburg, he said, was only a hamlet, and Bushwick a mere thinly settled township. On the 1st of January, 1855, Bushwick embraced two villages, with a population of 7,000. Williamsburg numbered nearly 30,000 inhabitants, while the population of Brooklyn has advanced to 145,000—the three consolidated into one Municipal Corporation, forming, as the message declared, the second city in the Empire State. To show still further the comparison, the message presents from this point to give, with exceeding minuteness, statistics of the present superficial area of the city limits—the number of buildings, the number of streets, the length of gas-pipes and lamps attached, the sewers constructed, the aggregate miles of City Railroad, public parks, cemeteries, churches, schools, charitable institutions, newspapers, banks, factories, manufactories, ship-building, &c. The assessed value of taxable property, as estimated within the past year, he gives as follows:

Brooklyn real estate	$64,643,117
Brooklyn personal property	3,164,621
Williamsburg real estate	13,366,654
Williamsburg personal property	1,414,559
Bushwick real estate	3,106,854
Bushwick personal property	100,800
Total	$85,895,045

With the advanced progress thus shown, and the great natural and local advantages possessed by Brooklyn, the message thought we then could be not in the future greatness and extent of the city.

The message now proceeds at great length to discuss the prominent topics connected with the laws, finances, and matters of general improvement and interest pertaining to the Municipal Government.

Early publication of the new charter, and ordinances passed under it, was first recommended. This was to obviate confusion, especially in Williamsburg and Bushwick, as since the operation of the new charter all previous ordinances passed under their separate Governments were extinct. A too thorough acquaintance, it was urged, could not be had with the laws, either by the governing or governed.

An entire radical change was deemed necessary in the Police Department. Partisan influences should never induce to an appointment to the police; but States for the place and integrity of the candidate alone be consulted. A plan to remedy existing evils in this Department, the Message stated, would at an early day be submitted, with a view to its presentation to the State Legislature.

The Fire Department in its fundamental organization was pronounced judicious. The power invested in the Municipal Government to determine the fire companies and their members, with right of disbandment or question, was declared as best conducive to order and the formation of proper companies, to whom property and life could safely be entrusted. It was feared, however, that many unworthy and disorderly members were becoming enrolled in the different companies. Strict scrutiny, therefore, into the character and qualifications of those elected to the department, was insisted upon as in the highest degree imperative.

On the question of Public Health, the Message stated that the mortality of the year had been large. The adoption of more stringent measures than those at present in force was recommended, against permitting any ingress whatever of cattle and swine in the City.

The Liquor Question was dwelt upon at some length. The consumption of spirituous drinks was declared on the increase. Aside from the ultimate hope of a Maine Law, the present municipal regulations touching the traffic, the Message declared, were sufficient to lessen materially the traffic, and the multiplied ruinous results growing out of it, if only made efficient by proper and legitimate enforcement.

No determinate statement was given of the financial condition of the city, as the accounts of the several departments required to be given by the Charter had not been made up. Recommendation, however, was made for the immediate appointment of the Committee prescribed by the Charter to investigate into the extent of the property, assets and debts of the different sections within the corporate limits.

Attention was but briefly called to the subject of fairy and water rights. Building proper and efficient piers along the extended water front of the City limits was recommended.

After alluding to some city lawsuits pending in Williamsburg, arising mainly out of street proceedings, and recommending the propriety of applying to the Legislature for authority to correct the same, the subject of the introduction of water into the city was discussed upon at considerable length. There does not seem to be that the city would be supplied greater or later. No plan however, was suggested, nor any estimates given. The message expressed itself adverse to any plan which should vest the control of the waters to be raised in the Common Council, or any person or body of its appointing. An entirely independent commission, it urged, should be created to carry out the important work. No unnecessary delay, it stated, should interfere to prevent the equitable planting companies of no importance to the growth and interest of the city.

The subject of the various matters applicable for grading and general improvements of the streets, and the consolidating portions of the Municipal, Water, Sewerage and Gas Commissioners, which, if not, it was thought, be grounds for complaint against the parties and their sureties. As the opening of the street, with the necessary appurtenances of water and gaspipe, by the district had been vested in the Aldermen, each in their own Ward respectively, the Message expressed the hope that, aside from the lofty considerations of public health, they would self-identify fixed popular feeling and interest in their respective Wards to attach no blame on their part of tight and extended discharge of duty in the matter assigned.

Mayor HALL closed his Message with a brief reviewal of the climate economy transacted under their municipal Government. He urged the duty of office and the faithful discharge of the public trusts.

After the transaction of some other unimportant business the Board adjourned to Tuesday evening, at 8 o'clock.

NEW-YORK CITY.

Board of Education.

A special meeting of the Board of Education was held last Saturday, at 5 P. M., at the Hall of the Board, ERASTUS C. BENEDICT, Esq., President, in the chair. This being the final meeting of the year and the closing term of membership of many attached to the Board, an unusual amount of business was transacted. The annual reports of the various departments of the Board were in order, and duly presented.

The thirteenth annual report of the City Superintendent was first submitted. It was a lengthy and interesting document, giving in detail the condition and prospects of the different Ward schools of the City, and replete throughout with suggestions bearing upon educational interests and progress. Ample provision, the report stated, had been made for the education of every child in New-York. With the public munificence, nearly one million of money annually was expended for this purpose. The responsibilities of the Board, in the mighty interests entrusted to them, the Superintendent thought, in the character and solemnity of the trust, next to the sacred office, the very highest that could be commissioned to man. The Normal Schools, Evening Schools and the Free Academy were carefully reviewed in the report. As completing the complement of Normal Schools, a school expressly for those wishing to fit themselves for the profession of teaching was strongly urged by the Superintendent. An extension in the number of Evening Schools was recommended as judicious. The Free Academy was declared to have amply vindicated the wisdom which dictated it. The same principle underlying its formation, the same outline of studies and discipline, the Superintendent thought, should be extended to such of the female pupils of the Grammar Schools as desired it. An extended dissertation as to the course of studies best adapted to carry out the idea of a complete education concluded the report. Enlarged comprehensive views, it stated, were beginning to show themselves, and it was beginning to be seen, that man's high moral nature needed education and discipline as well as his intellectual being. Without such education the finest issues and noblest capabilities were untouched and undeveloped. The report went on to show what would be the development of a complete system of education, as recommended, in its effect upon all the departments of human effort, and even as affecting the very vitals of the State.

The importance of making education practical was dwelt upon at some length. The predominant trait or genius, the trade or occupation or profession adapted to be pursued. For one mind the arts of painting, sculpture, music, or machinery possess engrossing attractions; for another, the purposes of commerce, legislation and political economy possess inestimable charms; while another would choose the more quiet field of literature and science. The report was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The Executive Committee on Evening Schools next presented their annual report. It was likewise a voluminous document, and set forth the advantages of evening schools, and their high importance as one of the substitutes between us and public instruction. A large number of tables were cited, showing the effect of even the limited education afforded, in "the fact that the intelligent workingman was not only a better workman but earned and would earn more than the unenlightened laborer. The report showed marked increase in attendance and interest. The whole number of evening schools were 37, 16 for males and 7 for females. Two colored schools were also in operation. The attendance of pupils for less than one month were 4,167; over one month and less than two months, 2,072; over two months and less than three months, 2,000; attendance full term, 2,275. The whole number of scholars registered in 1853, was 5,113; in 1854, 12,012, making a gain over the previous year, of 2,099. The report was adopted and ordered to be printed, on the motion of the Chairman.

The annual report of the Executive Committee on Normal Schools, was presented. It stated there were now three Normal Schools in the City, one for male and two for colored schools. The male school there was its regular forty-five pupils, and the regular attendance twenty-five. The female school is in a much more flourishing condition—the whole number of pupils being over six hundred, and the attendance five hundred. At the examination last Spring, seventy-nine of these were awarded diplomas. The colored school shows on the register twenty and sixteen regular attendance. The report expressed the hope that this department of public instruction would receive a larger share of the Board's attention than formerly. The report was received and ordered to be printed.

The Sixth Annual Report of the Board of Education for the Ward of New-York, was presented, giving full details of the operations and present state of the Free Academy. The number of students attached to the Academy at the close of the year just ended, is 578. The number in attendance during the year, 530. The document was ordered to be properly authenticated, and a copy presented to the Common Council. Also ordered to be printed.

The following reports were adopted: Of Committee on fitting and School-houses to authorize the school officers of the Twentieth Ward to make the necessary repairs and additions to the school in Twenty-eighth-street; of the Finance Committee in favor of appropriating $2,000 for extra repairs on Ward School No. 48.

A letter was read from Hon. L. STUART, Esq., noting the acceptance by the Board of Fowbles's portrait of DE WITT CLINTON, the first President of the Public School Board, and which is now on exhibition at Mr. Fowbles's studio. The communication also suggested that a portrait of Mr. TRIMBLE, the last President of the Board, be also placed in the Hall of the Board of Education.

On motion the communication and portrait were unanimously accepted with thanks, including the suggestion in relation to the portrait of Mr. TRIMBLE. On motion of Mr. PHILLIPS, of the Eighth Ward, the Board unanimously decided to place the portrait of the retiring President of the Board of Education, Hon. ERASTUS C. BENEDICT, at the time of the union of the Public School Society with the Ward Schools in 1853.

[The above named portraits are complimentary tributes from friends of education, and members of the Public School Society, and the Board of Education, paid for by private subscription.]

Mr. WHITMORE, with a few brief and appropriate remarks, presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously passed:

That the cordial and sincere thanks of this Board are hereby tendered to Hon. ERASTUS C. BENEDICT for the uniform courtesy, dignity, impartiality and marked ability with which he has administered the office of President, and that the members desire in this public manner to express the high sense they entertain of the eminent service he has rendered during a series of years to the cause of public instruction.

The president briefly responded, in terms and sentiments befitting the occasion. In conclusion, he expressed the entire conviction that although his own connection with the ward, and that of many others that might be cited, that their interests still in the cause of human learning and progress would continue indissoluble.

The following preamble and resolution, offered by Mr. PHILLIPS, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The term of service for which the three members selected by the late Public School Society at the time of its consolidation with the common schools of the City is about to expire, and thus terminate the last provision of law in connection with that venerable institution; therefore,

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education elected by the people acknowledge the zealous and faithful manner with which the executors of the late Public School Society have discharged the trust confided to them as Commissioners of Common Schools, and part with them with deep regret for our loss and that of the public service.

Messrs. COLLINS, COOPER, and others, briefly replied,

New-York Daily Times,
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 3, 1855.

Congressional.

[illegible] the bill granting bounty land [illegible] and soldiers who have been [illegible] in the military service of the United States, [illegible] the Senate yesterday. A [illegible] was had upon it, and many [illegible] were offered, some of which [illegible]. Finally, the subject was [illegible] for the day, and after making the bill [illegible] this judiciary system of the United [illegible] the votes for Thursday next, the Senate [illegible].

In the House, the bill to amend the act of [illegible] and graduating the price of [illegible] to actual settlers and cultivators, [illegible] considered. Several amendments were [illegible] to the attention of the Committee on Public Lands. The long-looked-for [illegible] of the President for vetoing the River and Harbor bill, during the last session, were [illegible] yesterday and read. The Message is very long and very unsatisfactory. A digest of it is published with the Congressional proceedings in another part of this day's Times. It was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. The time of the House, from the conclusion of the reading the Message to adjournment, was occupied principally by Mr. MAYALL in opposition to the Reciprocity Treaty between the United States and the British Provinces.

The Governor's Message.

Governor CLARK's first message, which will be found on another page of this morning's Times, is a document of more than usual interest and importance. It is long, but only in consequence of the number of topics which it presents. Its style is simple, direct and emphatic;—nothing is wasted upon attempts at rhetoric or in general disquisitions on the history of the year. Several subjects are introduced in it which have not hitherto been discussed in similar documents, and bold and startling suggestions are made on various points, which cannot fail to command very general attention. It is eminently a practical business message, evincing on the part of the Governor clear and distinct opinions and an active willingness to meet all the responsibility which expressing and acting upon them may involve.

The financial condition of the State, as presented in the Message, is far from encouraging. The falling off in the revenue of the Canals is very serious, and if it were not clearly traceable to temporary causes would excite a good deal of apprehension as to the future prospects of those great works. But the general paralysis of business—the severe drought of the last Summer which diminished the Canals of the quantity of water needed for transportation, for a large part of the season, and caused a general deficiency in the crops, and the active rivalry of the railroads, combined to reduce the tolls of the Canals to a very low figure—this year's experience, we hope, will be unique. The surplus revenue, which, this year, fell short over $[illegible], being sufficient to meet all the requisitions of the Constitution upon them. The Governor does not suggest any definite note of [illegible] in reference to this matter—but we understand that the Auditor of the Canal Department will recommend the imposition of higher tolls on competing Railroads, and that the Comptroller will urge the necessity of continuing the State tax, at its last year's rate of one mill on the dollar. Something, it is very clear, must be done to increase the revenues of the State beyond the point they are likely to reach, or they will not meet the necessary expenditures of the year.

An evil of financial emergency so clearly presented by the Message, we are a little surprised at the lavish recommendations of appropriations for the erection of new Lunatic Asylums, and for other purposes. We presume, however, that the Governor's purpose was rather to urge the utility of these objects upon the public attention, than to press large appropriations on their behalf upon the Legislature.

The part of the Message which will command most attention in this City is that which treats of the Usury Laws, the extravagant Railroad adventures of the day, and the general spirit of stock gambling which pervades the community, and finds its head-quarters and chief support in the Board of Brokers in this City. We are inclined to think that if the election were to occur to-day, Governor CLARK's vote in Wall-street would not be overwhelmingly large. There is, nevertheless, a great deal of justice in his remarks, and pressing necessity for a thorough and radical reform of those abuses. Whether his suggestions lead to any practical measures of legislation or not, they will have a wholesome effect on the public mind, and will do something to check the spirit of stock gambling which is becoming almost universal and is inflicting immense evils on the community at large, as well as on the individuals who are made the victims of its allurements. His vindication of the laws against usury will probably put a quietus on the attempts of the Chamber of Commerce and others in this City to secure their repeal, at least for one or two sessions of the Legislature.

The Governor's remarks on State Education indicate larger and more methodical views on the general system than have hitherto been presented in similar documents. He urges that the Common Schools of the State be made entirely free, by abolishing the remnant of the rate bill system,—that a better mode of distributing the public money among the districts be devised,—that the Academies of the State be enlarged, improved and made free to people from the Common Schools, and that these institutions as well as Colleges be brought into harmonious connection so as to become essential and mutually necessary parts of our great system. The schools of this City are deservedly held up to the State as affording in many respects the best example of the complete development of the Free School system.

We are glad the Governor has called the attention of the Legislature to the LEMMON Case. It had almost escaped public attention that the State of Virginia was contesting the right of New-York to prohibit Slavery within her limits, and that there was nobody to appear on our behalf either in our own State Courts or in the Supreme Court of the United States to which the case will doubtless be carried. E. D. COWAN, Esq., it will be remembered, volunteered to defend the right of the slaves to their freedom, but when that had been secured, and Mr. LEMMON had received the $5,000 contributed as indemnity for his loss, neither party had any private interest in either prosecuting or defending the appeal that had been taken. The State of Virginia, however, has undertaken to contest the constitutionality of our State law; and it is only right and proper, as the Governor suggests, that our Legislature should provide for its defence. The Governor's remarks on the Nebraska bill, and the issues that naturally grow out of it, are strong and decided, and will we presume, satisfy all the opponents of that great wrong and the aggressions on the part of the Slaveholding interest of which it was at once an indication and example.

The Governor, in his remarks on the Excise laws, vindicates the justice and necessity of a prohibitory law, and shows that it involves no principle which has not already been acted upon by the State in its past legislation upon this subject. At the same time he suggests the propriety of so guarding any law that may be enacted as to protect personal rights and avoid any undue sacrifice of private interests that may be involved.

Various other topics are discussed in the Message, but these are the subjects of leading interest. We abstain from repeating the statistics that are given concerning the various benevolent institutions in the State, as they are presented with clearness and brevity, in the Message itself. The document, as a whole, is one which cannot fail to be well received throughout the State.

Mayor Wood's Message.

Mayor WOOD speaks out freely and frankly. We can all see what he is driving at. He does not "hem" or "haw" or make very long paragraphs. He does not like our present charter. That of 1830 was a great deal better one. This one sets heads of the Mayor and gives him no straw—sets crockery and gives him no clay. It transfers the capitol of New-York City to Albany. It governs us through the Legislature. The Mayor ought, he thinks, to have in his hands the appointment of the heads of departments—and they should be to him accountable. This is honestly stated, though it may not be Democratic.

Mayor WOOD thinks this to be a very critical time—a time when a man should assume some doubtful prerogatives and presume upon some points that are not clear. There is a smack of the old Roman in the following:

For myself, I desire to announce here, upon the threshold, that, as I understand and comprehend my duties and prerogatives, they leave me no alternative, without dishonor, but to assume a general control over the whole City Government, so far as protecting its municipal interests may demand it. I shall not hesitate to exercise even doubtful power when the honor or the interest of the public is abused.

It is not quite clear to us that this is what the people demand. They have not commanded a Dictator to arise yet, not discovering the emergency probably which is obvious to Mayor WOOD's clear eye. But there is no doubt that

They ask public order—the suppression of crime and vice—clean streets—the removal of nuisances and abolition of abuses—a reconstruction of taxation to the absolute wants of an economically administered Government, and a prompt execution of the laws and ordinances. Let us endeavor to meet their expectations.

And to the petition above offered all the people will respond most heartily, "Amen."

New Years Day.

New Years Day was kept pretty much in the old way. The efforts of the press and the pulpit to induce the ladies, in setting out their tables, to omit intoxicating liquors and wines, has not been without effect. So long as daylight lasted but very few persons exhibiting signs of New Years dissipation, could be seen in our principal streets, though before daylight and after the gas was lighted on Monday, more drunken men seldom can be seen. Fights and "scrimages" were not unfrequent.

In our columns will be found the particulars of the murder of a wife by her husband—the act being the finishing stroke of a series of abuses of a drunkard.

An affray occurred also between two men over a gambling table, which will probably result in the death of both parties—the one by murder, the other by suicide.

It was the first day of the City Railroads under the new dispensation. Free tickets were utterly useless. No dead-heads rode in any one of the City cars, and the consumption of shoe leather was greatly enhanced in consequence.

News by the Star of the West.

The *Star of the West* came up yesterday, with nine day's news from California, and twelve day's news from the Sandwich Islands, but from neither is it important. Nothing further turns up of the treaty with the Hawaiians. "We have heard the other side" of the Petropaulovski affair—the story as told by the Russians; if it was discreditable to the Allies before, now, in this side light, it is positively shocking.

The mining news, notwithstanding that the rains have prevented much working in the river beds, is flattering. They tell a story of a monster lump found in Calaveras County, weighing 2,576 ounces, of which twenty pounds only are supposed to be quartz, the residuary, one hundred and forty-one pounds of gold, valued at $33,316, form a nugget which proves a little larger than our uninformed faith is willing to credit; still, we hope, for the credit of our country, that it is worth all its claims. It will be invaluable for the high-faluting and "spread eagle" speech-makers in Congress—the ability to add, when speaking of our country's greatness, to the statement that we have the biggest rivers and the smartest men—our nuggets too, are the largest in all "prospected" creation.

The criminal record is not at this time extensive—one poor fellow's fate is recorded, who, upon circumstantial evidence of the most unsatisfactory sort—one JACK ROARKE, of bad general reputation, was hung by the neck upon a tree, without a jury or a judge to dignify the outrage,—hung, with the ejaculation "God bless my son" upon his lips. If we rightly remember, the citizens of Mariposa, who so recklessly forfeit their claim to a sympathy with, and to the reputation of good citizens, are reckoned as Christian men.

The City's Chief—His Promises.

Our Mayor takes "a rank hold." To take hold ranker would make him more than a reformer, and—quite a usurper too.

He began work on New Year's Day. He didn't "wait till to-morrow"—though waiting in one instance might have been rather more fit for a "people-chosen" magistrate. He nominated four Clerks—namely, one for the Seventh Judicial District, two for the new Police Court, and one in place of W. S. DAVISON—and, without waiting for the concurrences of the Board of Aldermen, *swore them in* on New Year's Day. Yet the law of 1851 provides that they "Shall be appointed by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, or a majority thereof." Rather a rank hold, Mayor WOOD, for the first afternoon of even "a determined Chief Officer's" rule.

We shall forgive even such assumptions as these, however, if the Mayor keeps the promises implied and expressed in the following mandate which was issued yesterday to the Police. The eyes of about one-sixth portion of this good State of New-York will delight to look upon our new Mayor for the coming year—a little wonderingly, perhaps, and honestly anxious to know what will come of such radical reforms as are promised, and how this beginning will end. Attention!

MAYOR'S OFFICE, NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1855.

SIR: I have this day assumed the office of head of the Police Department of this City, and shall expect and require adherence to its rules and regulations. In your hands is placed the care of the property and lives, as well as the order, peace and outward moral deportment of the whole community.

Though you cannot extirpate vice, you can do much to suppress it. Vigilance and an honest discharge of your duties will not only enable the people to pay more for your protection, by reducing the expense which crime produces, but add to the respectability of your positions and to the security of its continuance. There is now dissatisfaction in the public mind with the apparent insufficiency of the Police. There should be no cause for it! Let there be none! Your duties are light, the pay not illiberal, your social standing good, and the term for which appointed renders you independent of the contingencies to which the operative and other laboring classes are subjected. You hold positions of trust and honor to which the pride and ambition of any man need not be ashamed to aspire.

It is my duty to see the laws faithfully executed; you are to be my aids in effecting this. I cannot look over the whole City to see that all is right; but you can for me. I rely upon you. You are to be the *eyes* through which the theatre of my duties is to be observed, and the messengers to convey to me through your officers, faithful and truthful reports.

In addition to the rules and regulations now in force in the Department, and the several directions therein, you are requested to take note of and comply with the following:

It is hereby made your duty to report every day when on duty, to your Commanding Officer, the following information; and an omission to do so, and to conform to every requirement of this circular, will be deemed disobedience, and punished as such.

To report every street unclean, upon your patrole.

Every unlicensed public-house for the sale of liquor.

Every public-house kept open on the Sabbath.

Every house of prostitution.

Every gambling house.

Every street not lit at the proper hour.

Every street or sidewalk encumbered, and the party or parties offending.

Every excavation made under the sidewalks or streets by builders, or others.

Every nuisance, and the party offending.

Every supposed dereliction by any Officer of the Corporation.

Every violation of the City Ordinances.

You are further directed, to disperse all gathering of men and boys at the corners of the streets or other public places, on the Sabbath day, where disorder is produced.

To enforce the closing of public-houses on the Sabbath day.

To protect the stranger or emigrant from extortion or imposition.

To remove from the streets all beggars, and direct them to the several public and private institutions created for their relief.

To see that the ordinances for the removal of snow and ice from the sidewalks and gutters be promptly complied with.

You are further directed to arrest for creating riot or breaches of the peace.

For being intoxicated and disorderly in the street.

For injuring private or public property.

For stopping the free passage of the cross-walks by cartmen, coachmen, or others.

For throwing offal, garbage, vegetables, and rubbish in the streets.

For offences of any kind against the laws.

Your faithful compliance with these directions is requested. Let no consideration induce you to omit one of them.

You have now a determined Chief Officer who will not be indifferent to a single dereliction of duty upon the part of those for whose conduct he is responsible to the community.

Very respectfully,
FERNANDO WOOD, Mayor.

The Empire City Bank Failure—$100,000 Used by a Director—His Mysterious Disappearance.

The recent suspension of business by the Empire City Bank has resulted rather seriously to a majority of the Directors, in consequence of one of their number having previously become indebted to the Institution in the sum of $100,000. It seems a gentleman of high standing in the community, Mr. SAMUEL LEGGETT, was a leading member of the Bank direction, and being reported to possess *wealth, it was deemed no risk to loan him large amounts.* Since the Bank closed an investigation into the affairs have taken place, and yesterday it was discovered that Mr. LEGGETT owed the Bank $100,000. It was thought his indebtedness would not exceed $20,000, but on footing up accounts, the Directors ascertained their mistake. It is understood that the operations of Mr. LEGGETT have involved ELIJAH F. PURDY, Esq., to the amount of some $40,000 or $50,000, by Mr. PURDY's endorsing a portion of his paper discounted in the Empire City Bank. A few days ago Mr. PURDY was surprised by the receipt of a letter from Mr. LEGGETT in which he stated to Mr. PURDY, that he, (Mr. PURDY,) had been his best friend, and accepting his (LEGGETT's) father. He was exceedingly sorry to say that all he owed Mr. PURDY he could not pay him, and he must look to the world for it, as before 3 o'clock that evening, he, (Mr. LEGGETT,) would be no more!

Efforts were immediately made by Mr. PURDY and others interested in the Empire City Bank, to find Mr. LEGGETT, but the efforts were unsuccessful, as they were informed he had not been seen since the 20th of last month.

Mr. LEGGETT was a partner of THOMAS J. SLOAT, Esq., and co-proprietor of the Empire Works, foot of East Twenty-fifth-st., and his mysterious disappearance has created quite a sensation among the mercantile community.

THE WEST INDIES.

The U. S. Sloop-of-war Albany Safe on the 8th of October.

ARRIVAL OF THE BLACK WARRIOR.

LATER FROM CUBA.

The State Prisoners—Havana Politics.

The U. S. Mail steamship *Black Warrior*, J. D. BULLOCK, Commander, arrived on Tuesday from New-Orleans *via* Havana. There was nothing of interest stirring at the latter place. One of the passengers by the *Black Warrior* reports having left La Guayra on the 8th of October; the sloop-of-war *Albany* was then in port,—officers and crew all well. He thinks she was going down the coast. The *Black Warrior* experienced very heavy weather on her passage home, and on the 29th encountered a very strong gale from the North and West which lasted twenty-four hours.

Correspondence of the New-York Daily Times.

HAVANA, Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1854.

There is very little of interest to communicate, the affairs of the State prisoners, remain without determination, and the holidays, with the confusion of enjoyment incident thereto, seem to possess the social avenues to the exclusion of all things else. On Saturday last the Captain-General made the Annual Visit and Inspection of Prisons, and a few words were exchanged between him and FRANCISCO ESTRAMORA—of the Baracoa insurrectionary movement—the latter stating that *he alone*, was guilty, of all the prisoners made by the Government, confirming his previous declarations made to the Queen's Attorney and to the Military Commissioners—in which he was out short by the General's observation that his "denial for others was the impulse of duty;" that he was well advised as to *his* purposes, and that of the others; that he did not ask him to criminate himself, and that his trial would proceed to the close, &c. The object seems to be to force testimony against Mr. FELIX, who stands arraigned under the denunciation of "Francisco Hernandez," which Mr. ESTRAMERES has declared to be false, and without any foundation—that Mr. FELIX was in no way associated or implicated in what he proposed to do—nor did he know of his proceedings or intentions. The captain (MCCULLOCH,) of the schooner *John G. White*, and the mate, have been transferred from the Spanish ship of war to the cells of the Tacon prison, and have had a second examination before the "Military Commission," where they were questioned with much pertinacity as to what they know of Mr. FELIX—not seeming to care particularly about them, or the part they had acted in the affair.

It is said here that the malignant shade given to the case of Mr. FELIX is owing to the investigation and management of General MANZANO—that "FRANCISCO HERNANDEZ" has been frightened or suborned to denounce FELIX—and that his declarations are miserable fabrications, or possibly, a transfer of his own proposed crime for another's neck to answer. The steamer *Falcon* from Aspinwall, brought the Chargé of the United States to Bogota, New-Granada, Mr. DANA, and also Mr. BENJAMIN, of New-Orleans, from Equador, who has concluded, I presume, his mission there with a treaty. They left yesterday in the steamer *Philadelphia* for New-Orleans.

I hand you herewith market reports which will give everything of interest in our commerce.

By arrival of the Spanish steamer *Teyaba* at Batabano, south side, we have news of the loss of the British ship *Isabella*, foundered at sea 10th inst. She was from St. Domingo, loaded with dye woods. Officers and crew saved by the steamer *Teyaba* and taken to Manzanillo.

Our business will be renewed on the 5th of January. Health good, and the estates working without any of the obstructions from disease of the several seasons past.

Market Reports.

HAVANA, Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1854.

Since the 11th business transactions have been more limited in all departments of the market, than noted in previous numbers, partly owing to the small stock of produce ready for shipment and partly attributable to the Christmas holidays.

SUGARS—Transactions during the past fortnight have been small and, while the value of old Sugars has not experienced any alteration, small parcels of new crop have fetched very high prices.

MOLASSES—Continue to arrive in small lots.

COFFEE—Must be quoted a shade higher.

CIGARS—Continue in active demand.

TOBACCO—Of superior quality commands high prices, while inferior descriptions remain neglected. Exported: 318,360 lbs. to Spain, 168,273 United States and 9,206 Antwerp; in all, 499,539 lbs.

EXCHANGE—For paper on the United States there has been an active inquiry, causing a further rise in rates.

IMPORTS—A limited business has been done on account of the interruption caused by the Christmas holidays.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE

By Telegraph to the New-York Daily Times.

The Massachusetts Legislature—Fire at Woburn, &c., &c.

BOSTON, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

The Legislature of Massachusetts will assemble to-morrow. Several gentlemen have been named for the Presidency of the Senate and for the Speakership of the House, and for the other offices, but nothing definite can be known until the proceedings of the legislative caucuses, to be holden this evening, are made public.

The Patent Leather Manufactory of General ABIJAH THOMPSON in Woburn, was destroyed by fire last night.

ANTHONY GRANNER, of East Boston, was arrested to-day charged with committing Manslaughter on Christmas day, while intoxicated, by driving his carriage over Mrs. CURRY, an aged lady, residing in Lynn, who has since died from the effects of the injuries received.

The Know-Nothing Senatorial Caucus to-night nominated HENRY W. BENCHLEY, Esq., of Worcester, for the Presidency of the Senate, and C. L. COX, of Lynn, for Clerk. Mr. GIFFORD, of Duxbury, will probably be the Assistant Clerk.

The vote for the Presidency on the first ballot was as follows: BENCHLEY, 17; RICHMOND, of Berkshire, 7; HALL, of Plymouth, 5; BAKER, of Middlesex, 4.

The House Caucus lasted until this hour, and finally nominated Rev. DANIEL C. EDDY, of Lowell, for Speaker, and HENRY A. MARSH, of Pittsfield, for Clerk.

Inauguration of the New City Government of Boston.

BOSTON, Monday, Jan. 1.

The new City Government was duly Inaugurated here this forenoon for the year 1855.

Chief Justice SHAW administered the oath of office to the Mayor elect, D. SMITH, who then qualified both branches of the Common Council.

The Mayor's Address was entirely of local interest.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

The organization of the House took place here this morning. On the first ballot for Speaker HENRY K. STRAUSS, the Whig and Native American candidate, was elected, receiving 76 votes. Scattering 24.

The Senate will meet at 3 o'clock. Mr. HEISTERS is the Whig caucus candidate for Speaker, and Mr. HASLIP the Democratic.

The House was 2 votes short this afternoon, and made three unsuccessful ballots for Speaker with the following result: B. D. HASLIP, Dem., 14; JOHN HENDRICK, Whig, 13; Scattering, 4.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

The Illinois Legislature.

CHICAGO, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

The Legislature of this State organized at Springfield to-day. THOMAS TURNER, Esq., the Anti-Nebraska candidate, was elected Speaker of the House, and E. T. BRIDGE, Clerk.

Late and Interesting from the Cape of Good Hope.

BOSTON, Monday, Jan. 1.

The ship *Minstrel*, arrived at this port, brings Cape of Good Hope papers to Nov. 4.

Accounts from the frontier state that there were fears of another Kaffir war. It was alleged that the Kaffirs were endeavoring to stir up the Fingoes to rebellion, the English having attempted to interfere with their system of polygamy, &c. Active watch was kept by the Government.

The natives beyond Orange River sovereignty had refused to allow further trading of the British with the interior of Africa, saying that they would kill off all the elephants.

So large an amount of wool had accumulated at Port Elizabeth that freight to London had considerably advanced.

The Cape papers contain severe articles on the policy of the Home Government, as regards the native tribes.

The country was in an unsettled state, and many murders are chronicled.

The Burning of the Mechanics' Institute at New-Orleans—The Pontchartrain Railroad Bonds.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Dec. 29.

The loss by the destruction of the Mechanics' Institute in this city is estimated at $70,000, of which $30,000 is covered by insurance.

An injunction was granted to-day restraining the Pontchartrain Railroad Company from selling the City Bonds now offered for sale by them in New-York.

Later from Texas.

NEW-ORLEANS, Saturday, Dec. 30.

Advices from Texas state that General HOUSTON will resign his seat in the United States Senate at the present Session.

Yellow Fever is prevalent at Lavacca.

The Indians of Texas are disposed to make peace, and settle on the lands reserved for them.

The Steamship Philadelphia at New-Orleans.

NEW-ORLEANS, Saturday, Dec. 30.

The steamship *Philadelphia*, from New-York, *vid* Havana, has arrived at this port. She brings no news of importance.

The Daniel Webster at New-Orleans.

NEW-ORLEANS, Saturday, Dec. 30.

The steamship *Daniel Webster* has arrived at this port with California dates to the 6th inst.

Success of Marlo and Grisi in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

GRISI and MARIO were highly successful here this evening in the opera of "I Puritani." The house was crowded with a fashionable audience to hear them, and they were greeted with the greatest enthusiasm. Negotiations are now pending for the Washington theatre for Monday and Wednesday of next week.

Philadelphia Stock Market.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Our Stock Market was steady this morning at the following quotations: Reading, 36; Morris Canal, 12¼; Long Island Railroad, 12½; Pennsylvania Railroad, 42; Pennsylvania State 5's 54, interest off. In Money there is no change.

Prosecution for Arresting a Criminal.

CHESTERFIELD, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

E. W. BENEDICT, Esq., who caught the incendiary WILSON as he was in the act of firing some buildings in this place a few weeks since, was yesterday presented by our citizens with a beautiful set of plate, two gold watches, and $500, as a testimonial due to his services.

Partial Destruction of an Engine-house on the New-York Central Railroad by Fire.

SCHENECTADY, Monday, Jan. 1.

The engine-house of the New-York Central Railroad at this place took fire at an early hour this morning, and was partially destroyed. The damage to building and locomotive is above $,500. It will cause no interruption to the business of the road.

Southern Mail Arrangements.

COLUMBIA, Monday, Jan. 1.

The following mail schedule has been decided upon, and will go into effect in a few days: From Knoxville to Columbia the mail to be conveyed by cars; from Charleston to Knoxville in coaches—time 30 hours; and from Columbia to Augusta in coaches—time 15 hours. The great Northern and Southern mails are thus to pass through Columbia

Arrival of the Steamship Southerner at Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

The U. S. Mail steamship *Southerner*, Captain THOMAS EWEN, arrived here from New-York at 3 o'clock this (Tuesday) morning.

The Know-Nothings in Oswego.

OWEGO, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

At the Charter Election, held here to-day, the Know-Nothings elected their entire ticket.

Arrival of the Steamer Augusta.

SAVANNAH, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

The steamship *Augusta* arrived here from New-York yesterday (Monday) evening.

Failure of a Banking-House.

PITTSBURG, Tuesday, Jan. 2.

The Banking-House of GEO. LARIMER, of this city, failed to-day.

Beware of Impostors.

To the Editor of the New-York Daily Times:

Will you please call public attention to the fact that all the duly authorized Collectors of this Association have a certificate of their appointment with the written signatures of the local officers.

Learning that unauthorized persons, unknown to us, are soliciting funds for this charity, it appears necessary to caution the benevolent against the imposition which may be practiced upon them, to the injury of the suffering poor whom it is their design to relieve.

R. M. HARTLEY,
Secretary of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

(Communicated.)

The Nautilus Machine—Its Inventor.

TO THE PUBLIC

A statement giving a concise history of the nature of the connection of Mr. HENRY B. SEARS with the Diving Bell, bearing the above title, invented by EDGAR W. FOREMAN, deceased, was prepared by the undersigned for insertion in Monday's TIMES; but the necessary length of it, and important demands on that journal of matter in which the public has a greater interest, precluded its publication for the present.

Mr. SEARS' statement, however, in Saturday's TIMES, requiring a somewhat extemporaneous notice, it only remains to the undersigned to bear testimony to Mr. HENRY B. SEARS, at any time and in any place, that he is either the inventor, joint-inventor, or co-inventor of the Diving Bell in question, as entirely responsible!

YELL & FOREMAN, No. 74 Franklin-street,
New-York, Jan. 3, 1855.

(Communicated.)

To the Editor of the New-York Daily Times:

GENTLEMEN—My name having been used as one of the Managers of the Ball to be given at the Opera House, (with kind motive,) but without my consent, and much to my regret, you will be pleased to insert this that it may be withdrawn. Yours, &c.,

LIEPENARD STEWART.

(Communicated.)

DR. SANFORD'S VEGETABLE LIVER INVIGORATOR.—I have been frequently requested by my friends to make public my opinion of this well known and much esteemed medicine. Believing also as do many others, similarly situated, to avoid the use of the many nauseous preparations by which I was made to feel miserable, I was induced to try the Invigorator. Upon my first trial I had only the prospect of temporary benefit. I was so much in strength and flesh, my constitution seemed so much improved, I was induced to continue its use. Several physicians of the City prescribed it in cases of hopeless consumption, and advised me to try Cod Liver Oil, together with other drugs, and, yielding to my mind to die. As a last resort, I placed myself under Dr. SANFORD'S treatment by inhalation, at the New-York Lung Institute, and continued it for about two months, the last of May last until the present time. The treatment was entirely different from that I had been labouring. My physicians who treated me first, had told me flatingly that I must die, ordered cod liver oil drugs to make me more comfortable. Dr. SANFORD allowed any quantity of food, but no drugs. He required me to inhale a medicated vapor, from a sponge, three or four times daily—forbade me from taking any medicine, and ordered wooden out of doors—directed me to use the most nourishing food, and frequent that I should drink daily a certain amount of alcoholic drinks. The remedy of Dr. SANFORD's treatment is a complete cure of my disease; and I can be seen every day at "Gunn's Hotel," as healthy a man as is usually seen, and I owe my recovery to Dr. G. D. SANFORD's system of treatment by inhalation, as now used at the New-York Lung Institute, No. 6 Bond-street, of which Dr. SANFORD has charge.

F. W. CORNWALL.

(Advertisement.)

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—MESSRS. HEARN, CLAPP & Co., No. 361 Grand-street, would announce to their patrons and the public generally, having failed in their arrangement, for the final disposition of the remaining stock of rich fancy and staple Dry Goods now on hand, that they have, contrary to their former intention, determined to continue their sales until the first of February,—being obliged to pursue this course in consequence of the truly alarming scarcity of money, thereby preventing a greater sacrifice, which must necessarily follow by throwing them at this predecessor time in the market—respectfully. In the meantime, to facilitate a speedy disposition of the remaining stock, they now propose to sell further reduction of 20 per cent. on all articles of rich Gloves, Silks, Lyons Velvet, Pelisse Cloths, Shawls, Paramattas, Muslin de Laines, &c. Also a general assortment of Linen Damask Table Cloths and Dozens, Napkins and Towelling, Cotton Prints, Flannels, Blankets &c. A better opportunity was never offered to those who wish to purchase.

(Advertisement.)

FURS AT AUCTION.—J. H. MARLEY, of No. 34 John-street, Great fur sale of the season. Among the selection will be found fine Sable and Russian ermine of his elaborate styles. Sale Thursday, 4th inst., No. 10 Nassau-street. H. H. LEHMAN & Co., Auctioneers. Every article warranted, and made under J. H. M.'s own supervision. Buyers can rely on seeing the cheapest selection of furs ever offered at auction.

(Advertisement.)

REAL LIFE-SIZE.—The only real life-size Photographs, made really on canvas and finished in oil, are those done by ROSS, No. 289 Broadway, corner of Franklin-street. Call and see them, and observe that they are not taken on paper and pasted on the canvas. Persons having ordinary Daguerreotypes can have them produced life-size. Every style of picture taken in any kind of weather.

(Advertisement.)

EYESIGHT—PUBLIC LECTURE.—Subject, "The Eye and Spectacles." Illustrations, models, diagrams and artificial eyes. Time, this Wednesday Evening, at 8 o'clock. Lecture Room, No. 80 Bowery. Admission, 12½ cents. Lectures, Mr. FRANCIS, Optician to the New-York Eye Hospital, and Spectacle maker to the Eye Infirmary.

(Advertisement.)

$2 50—ALL THIS WEEK.—The subscriber will receive new pupils daily this week, at $2 50 for a course of ten lessons in Penmanship, and $12 50 for a thorough course of Double Entry Bookkeeping.

OLIVER S. GOLDSMITH, No. 336 Broadway.

(Advertisement.)

GAS FIXTURES!! GAS FIXTURES!!!—Of unparalleled design and finish, and twenty per cent. cheaper than any other house, wholesale and retail, @ the manufactory of JAMES G. MOYNE, Nos. 112 and 114 Fulton-street, third block west of Broadway.

(Advertisement.)

FOSTER, DIXON & Co. give lessons in Writing, Arithmetic and Book-keeping, day and evening, at No. 363 Broadway, (Appleton's Building,) where gentlemen are qualified for the counting-house, in an expeditious and superior manner.

(Advertisement.)

☞ Photographs plain and colored, at BRADY'S, is the highest style of the art. Life, animal and spirit-like. BRADY'S are the only Photographs ever taken which are perfect without retouching (No. 359 Broadway.)

(Advertisement.)

MR. JOHN H. SCOTT as CAPT. COPP.—Few people, however familiar with Mr. SCOTT'S portraiture in Comedy and Farce, can recognize him as CAPT. COPP, for instance, in his new rôle, and his actual talent is generally lamented. He plays this night this afternoon and evening, at Barnum's Museum, supported by such rare artistes as Mr. C. W. CLARKE and Miss MESTAYER. Mr. HADAWAY also appears in John Buttery this evening. These are the attractions.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

PARIS HATS—WE HAVE RECEIVED PER SHIP *Advance*, direct from our Paris Representative, our usual supply of fashionable French Hats, of the newest styles, and this day place them on sale.

LEARY & CO., Wholesale and Jobbers in Hats, [illegible] Broadway.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS—THE THOUSANDS CROWDING who have daily thronged the great Fancy Store of E. ROGERS, No. 449 Broadway, the past week, will find that his Goods are yet unsold, and that the people are daily expressing surprise at the extent of his stock, considering the general Holiday Trade. The great variety of French Goods, especially adapted to the season, and the other large stock, fully equal to any in the City, will convince, as it has many others, that the assertion is not idle boasting. E. E. ROGERS, Proprietor.

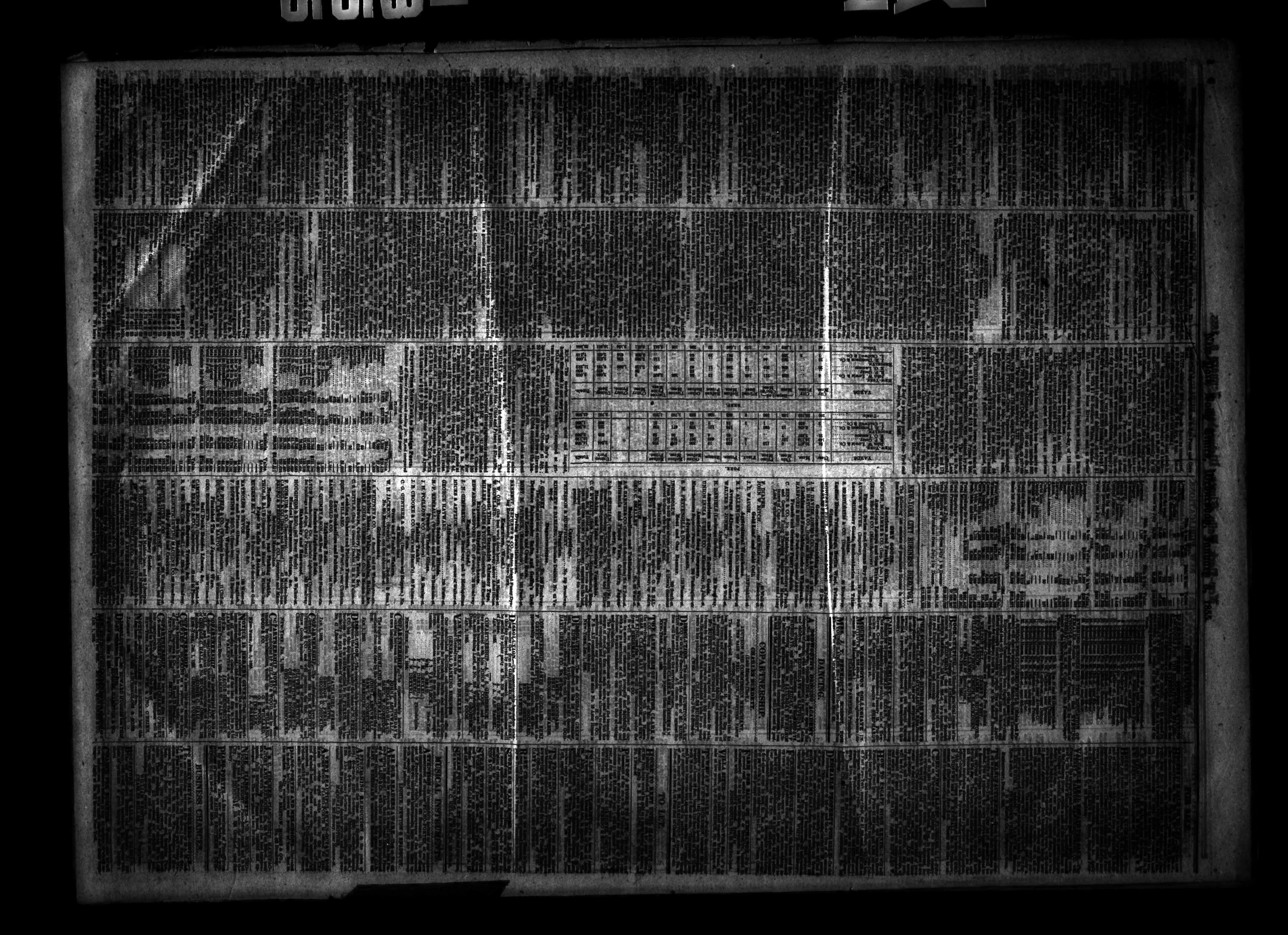
PIANOS, PIANOS.—ENORMOUS REDUCTION IN PRICES.—Superior [illegible] Pianos, from $[illegible] to Five Dollars, [illegible] Pianos, in Rosewood, cases for $[illegible] and $[illegible]. Pianos of every variety of style and price, comprising those of the following celebrated makers, namely, Chickering, Gilbert, Gilbert & Co., Stephens, Wheelock, Davis & Co., Hallet, Davis & Co., Nunns & Clark, Stephens & Co., Stodart, Stewart, Worcester, Pleyel, Pleyel, Wolff & Co., Lacoste, Boisselot, Boisselot & Son, Ronisch, Ronisch & Co., Ronisch & Suhn, Ronisch & Co. Pianos, $[illegible] to $[illegible]. Pianos, $[illegible] to $[illegible]. Pianos, $[illegible] to $[illegible]

SPECIAL NOTICES.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]



AUCTION SALES.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION—FANCY GOODS.—CORNING & DUBNER will sell, on Thursday, Jan. 4, at 10 o'clock, at No. 239 Pearl-st., by order of Mr. Wm. Ward, Jr., of Manhattan, a Fancy Goods Store, consisting of gold and silver watches, vis.: Rocky Mountain watches, Lepine, Lever, Lever, Lever

New-York Daily Times.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA

ARRIVAL OF THE STAR OF THE WEST

$400,000 IN SPECIE.

CALIFORNIA NEWS TO DEC. 9.

The steamship *Star of the West* arrived outside of Point Aconi on the morning of the 2d inst., and lay at anchor of the 2d with passengers and specie on board. She arrived here This day about Pilot Loop and the Agents of the Express ships us with early packages.

The steamer *Stove Nicaraguan*, connecting, left San Francisco on the evening of the 6th, passed Monterey *Uncle Sam* on the 10th, within five days of San Francisco, and arrived at San Juan del Sur on the night of the 21st. Passengers crossed the Transit route in thirty-three hours.

The *Star of the West* left Panama Avenue at midnight of the 23d, with 394 passengers and $600,000 in specie, for New-York—called at Key West for coals, and left on the evening of the 28th, at 4 o'clock, and arrived this morning, (Jan. 3,) having experienced strong gales and heavy sea from the N. E. and N. W. during the whole passage.

The following distinguished persons are among the passengers: Hon. Senator GWYNN, Hon. C. K. SMITH, Senator, SAMUEL BRANNAN, Esq., W. C. KALLOCH, Esq., Parson WILLIS, U. S. A., Major A. J. HUTTON, U. S. A., J. BOSS BROWN, Esq., S. H. UNDERHILL, Esq., and others.

Vessels in Port at San Juan Del Norte, Dec. 20, 1854.

U. S. frigate *Columbia*, (50 guns,) T. B. WILSON, Commander, bearing the broad pendant of Commodore NAPIER of the Home Squadron, arrived on the 20th ult. bringing Mr. WEBSTER, Minister to Nicaragua, Mr. MARCY, Minister to Guatemala, and also Mr. FABENS, special agent for the United States Government. Officers and crew all well.

U. S. steam-frigate *Tuscarora*, (20 guns,) bearing the broad pendant of Commodore HERNDON of the West India Squadron, having on board Mr. GARDE, the English Consul, arrived a few days prior to the Columbia, accompanied by the frigate *Vestal* of 26 guns, and brig-of-war *Daring* of 10 guns.

Amazilia barque *Nashua* for New-York soon.

The English Mail steamer *Dee* left for Chagres on the morning of the 23d.

Her Britannic Majesty's frigate *Vestal*, for Jamaica, left this harbor on the morning of the 23d, but grounded on the outward bar, and at the time of the sailing of the *Star of the West*, the steamer Daniel Webster for New-Orleans was assisting in towing her off.

The United States steam frigate *Princeton* attached to Commodore Newton's squadron was not expected.

Specie Line.

Adams, Harman & Co.	$320,000
Wells, Fargo & Co.	80,000
Adams, Hogg & Co.	20,000
Adams, Bingham & Co.	20,000
Adams & Co., Washington	10,000
Order	17,000
Total	$400,000

CALIFORNIA.

The Mines.

Notwithstanding the absence of rain which has been severely felt by the miners, the yields of all the principal Northern mines continue of a very encouraging character.

A nugget of gold weighing 17 pounds, was found a week ago, at a depth of four feet, intermixed with quartz, and is said to be 19 parts of pure gold, and is valued at $3,000.

Calaveras County near Mokelumne Hill, a lump of crystallized gold weighing 14 oz. was picked up on a gulch by an Indian boy. From Glencoe we learn that a party of miners found a very rich lead, and took out from $10 to the pan, and that considerable excitement took place in that locality.

Coldwell's Garden, near Shaw's Flat, Tuolumne County, a party of miners have been very successful, having struck a lead which yielded, so far, as the pan is concerned, they took out $1,000.

The South Carolina Company have sold their quartz claim on Carson Hill, Calaveras County, to an English company, for the good round sum of $64,000.

We learn that rich gold plains some twenty miles in extent have been discovered a few weeks since on the east fork of the Carson River, but very little prospecting has been done, as the river had frozen and the weather was intensely cold.

A valuable quicksilver mine has been discovered at Ballarat, on the coast range of mountains, three miles from the San Joaquin plains. We also learn that a vein of white is supposed to be cinnabar has been found on Rabbit Creek, Sierra County. It is of a hard substance, burns slowly, and does not emit very great heat.

Lynch Law in Mariposa—Jack Roarke Hung by the People.

The citizens of Mariposa were all last week in a state of great excitement in consequence of the murder of a man named JAMES HOGINS, a tall, fine looking Kentuckian, by a one-eyed gambler, known in every part of the State as JACK ROARKE. HOGINS went to Mariposa from the neighborhood of Stockton about the middle of last week. He became intoxicated on Saturday evening, and was taken by ROARKE and put to bed in the El Dorado House, ROARKE meaning to rob and some money (about $160) which was in his pocket, the evening previous. During Sunday and Monday, he made some inquiries to discover the thief, and from facts elicited by him, he became satisfied that ROARKE was the person. ROARKE, previous to the robbery of the money, had represented himself as being broke and was pretty generally received by his acquaintances as true. After the return of Saturday night, ROARKE seemed to have some funds, and was treating freely. On Tuesday morning he and two others were sitting in the El Dorado Saloon, when HOGINS entered and accusated that ROARKE had robbed him. ROARKE said that he must not make any insinuations against him; and that he was too well known in Mariposa, and that if he did make any such insinuations, he would shoot the top of his head off. The deceased replied that if he took the top of his head off he would have to take the bottom with it. He then rose from the table where he was sitting, drew his pistol, cocked it, and presented it in the direction of ROARKE. McCOMBS immediately stepped between, caught the pistol of deceased and pointed it up, when ROARKE snatched around Mr. McCOMBS, and shot HOGINS, while held by another. After receiving a mortal wound, HOGINS fired at ROARKE, who was flying, but missed him. HOGINS died, and ROARKE was arrested and confined in the county jail. The people were very much excited against the murderer at the time, but their indignation abated until Saturday last, when the house of ADAMS & Co. reports that JACK ROARKE was taken from the jail by a large crowd of the citizens, and hung until dead, on a tree just outside of the limits of the town.

An eye witness states:

Arrived at the gallows he ascended the platform with the rope about his neck, made a brief address in which he denied the truth of the reports of his being previously hung with some other charges which had been industriously circulated to his prejudice, declared his regret in not being allowed a trial by law, returned thanks to the Sheriff and many gentlemen officers to whom he had been entrusted, and with the expression of "God bless my poor relations," and was hung.

A party of miners, who left San Diego some time since for Colorado and other places, have found gold in Sonora, and are now working it with good prospects of success.

On the 1st inst., the prospectors arrived by the Rockies, met to receive frozen for milk this morning, some, rain, after. They had previously passed for twenty five cents. Owing to the very numerous in consequence, the change involved considerable loss to bakers. In every branch of trade and business throughout the city, they are now received for twenty cents only. Several other cities that are common in California, might be similarly reduced with consistency.

A railroad from Los Angeles to the Colorado is in high favor with many of the leading citizens of the former city. The inhabitants of San Diego are also projecting a railroad to the Colorado.

Some capitalists in Los Angeles have purchased land with the view of founding a new city, six miles inland from San Pedro.

A Salt Manufacturing Company, near Los Angeles, has a capital of $250,000 invested.

A spirited encounter between a "grizzly" and a young man of San Andres took place a few days since. There was a regular stand-up fight in which brain won the first "round" by knocking his human antagonist down and rolling him over, but having got a severe stab in the neck and the contents of a pistol awarded him, he judged it prudent to retreat.

A fire destroyed property to the amount of $14,000 in Nevada, on the 19th of November.

An election for Chief Engineer and three Assistants of the Fire Department was held on the 4th ult., and resulted in the reelection of CHAS. P. DUANE to the first named office, and Messrs. WM. FREE, FRANKLIN WHEELER and JOS. CAPPRICH to the other.

The telegraph line between Columbia and Stockton will be in operation on the 1st of January.

A sample of Cotton, grown on the banks of the Sacramento by Mr. T. O. SELBY, has been exhibited by that gentleman, and has demonstrated the adaptation of the Sacramento Valley for Cotton growing.

It is understood, says the *Echo du Pacifique*, that the Russian ship *Kamschatka* which now lies in our harbor, is only a privateer, prepared to leave the port at the earliest moment, to attack the French and English merchantmen. The English frigate *President*, which left two days after the arrival of the *Kamschatka*, did not go without learning the true character of the latter vessel, and has not left the vicinity of San Francisco; and will reenter the harbor about the 15th or 20th of this month. Besides, the French frigate *Alceste* left Callao on the 10th October, destined hither, and is now due. The English steamer *Virago* will likewise soon be back to our harbor. We know that the *Kamschatka* has eight guns and a crew of 100 men, and that she did not come hither for nothing.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Our dates are twelve days later, namely, to Nov. 16.

Vessels in Port.

The following was the number of vessels in Honolulu harbor on Friday, Nov. 10. Fifteen whalers, not included in the number, cleared previously to the 10th, making 80 whalers arrived to date:

Whaleships	74
Merchantmen	13
Ships-of-war	4
Coasting vessels and schooners	13
Total number vessels in port	104

We learn that there were about 75 whalers at anchor at Lahaina, at the latest dates.

San Francisco Markets.

FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 8, 1854.

The fine clipper ships *Celestial* and *Sing Kay*, which arrived to-day from New-York, brought full cargoes of assorted merchandise, much of which had been sold previous to arrival. Many of the sales have been previously reported by express.

FLOUR—Sales from first hands of 3,000 quarter sacks Happy Valley Mills Flour, at $9@$9 50; 300 bbls. Haxwell, Ended, at $6; 100 bbls. Belmont, on private terms. Jobbing sales, 500 quarter sacks repacked Chile, at $8; 400 quarter sacks Magnolia, at $8 50; 300 quarter sacks Golden Gate, at $8 25; 600 quarter sacks other Domestic Mills, at $7@$8 25.

GRAIN—3,000 sacks Barley, in two lots, from first hands, at 1½c. Jobbing sales 800 sacks, in lots, at 1½@1¾c.; 1,500 sacks Wheat, in lots, from store and wharf, at 2c@2½c. We hear of small lots of Oats jobbed at 2½c.

POTATOES—1,000 sacks Potatoes, in lots, at 1½@1¾c.

RICE—The demand for Rice continues unabated, and none of the sales reported have been made to Chinese. We note sales to-day of 100,000 lbs. (weighed Manila, at 5c.; 50,000 lbs. No. 2 China, at 5½c.; 25,000 lbs. do. do., at same figure; 25,000 lbs. Carolina, waverly, at 6½c.

MARRIED.

In this City, on Sunday evening, Dec. 31, by Rev. John P. Stone, Mr. THOMAS SEWARD to Miss SARAH C. REED, daughter of the late Samuel Reed, all of this City.

In this City, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 26, by Rev. J. Buckley, Mr. CHARLES DILLE, of Charles-street, Louisiana, to Mrs. MARY BRADY, of Brooklyn.

On Sunday, Dec. 31, in Brooklyn, by Rev. Dr. Bates of Carlisle, Mr. C. C. CAUSLER to Miss E. C. FRIENDY, both of Dundee.

At Greenwich, N. J., on Tuesday, Dec. 26, in St. Peter's Church, by Rev. Joseph P. Phillips, Mr. GEORGE COOPER STOUT, merchant, of Middletown Point, to Miss ADELAIDE, daughter of Hon. Lewis Scott.

At Stapleton, on Monday, Jan. 1, in St. John's Church, by Rev. Dr. Todd, Miss EMILY HOYT, of Stapleton, to NORRIS WATTSON, of Germantown, Pa.

At Flatbush, on Monday, Jan. 1, by Rev. [illegible], Mr. ISAAC [illegible] to Miss MARY ELIZABETH [illegible].

At Greenwich, on Tuesday, Jan. 2, by Rev. James Brewster, Mr. GARRIT FERDINAND HOBART to Miss HANNAH SUSANNA POST, both of Staten Island.

At Morrisonville, Pa., on Saturday, Aug. 26, by J. S. Downer, Esq., JAMES M. JUNE, of Westchester Co., to Miss HANNAH J. JOHNSTON GORDON, of New-York City.

DIED.

In this City, on Sunday morning, Dec. 31, of consumption, in the 30th year of her age, Mrs. SARAH M., wife of Saml. C. Carter.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, without further invitation, on Thursday morning, Jan. 4, at 10 o'clock, from her late residence, 55w-st., between 6th and 7th-ats.

In this City, on Tuesday morning, Jan. 2, Mrs. LAURA M. TILLSTON, widow of the late Otis Tillston, of Boston, aged 55 years.

Her funeral private, Boston papers please copy.

In this City, on Monday, Jan. 1, HELEN A., wife of James Whitehouse.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from St. Joseph's Church, corner of 6th-av. and 30th-st., at 10 o'clock, on Wednesday morning, Jan. 3, without further invitation.

In this City, on Tuesday morning, Jan. 2, Mrs. SARAH S. OLIVER, wife of John Oliver, in the 23d year of her age.

The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from her late residence, 165 Franklin-st., on Thursday, 4th inst., at 1½ o'clock P. M., without further invitation.

In this City, on Tuesday, Jan. 2, of consumption, SAMUEL S. FERRING, in the 31st year of his age.

Funeral services will be held at his late residence, No. 266 Madison-st., this day, at 8 o'clock P. M. The friends of the family, and members of the Knickerbocker Lodge, also the members of the Engine Firemen's Association, are respectfully invited to attend.

In Brooklyn, on Tuesday morning, Jan. 2, at her residence, No. 162 Pacific-st., near Hoyt, Mrs. FRANCES O'SULLIVAN, aged 70 years, widow of the late Eugene O'Sullivan.

The friends of the family, and those of her sons, Eugene and Samuel, are invited to attend the funeral, from St. James' Church, Cortlandt-st., on Thursday morning, the 4th inst., at 10½ o'clock, without further invitation.

In Brooklyn, on Tuesday, Jan. 2, JEANNE, only child of Mathew and Adaline Hall, aged 1 year, 7 months and 11 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of her parents, No. 226 Jay-st., near Johnson, this day, (Wednesday,) the 3d inst., at 2 o'clock P. M., without further invitation.

She was the darling of our house,
An angel sent to us to cover
Just when we learned to love her most,
God called her back to heaven.

In Brooklyn, on Tuesday, Jan. 2, of scarlet fever, LOUISA, youngest son of John E. and Mary A. McDonald, aged 3 years, 8 months and 21 days.

The remains were taken to Orange, N. J., for interment.

In Hoboken, on Monday, Jan. 1, at her residence, MARY, widow of John M. Ogden, aged 85 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, this day, (Wednesday,) at 2 o'clock, from the residence of her son-in-law, Charles Sumners, corner of Bridge and Washington-sts., Elizabeth-town, N. J.

At Englewood, Perth Amboy, N. J., on Monday morning, Jan. 1, Mr. NATHANIEL PEABODY, late of Boston, Mass., in the 81st year of his age.

At Gilmore, on Monday, Jan. 1, suddenly, HIRAM H. GRILLE.

In Ellington, Conn., on Tuesday, Dec. 26, at the house of Rev. Chas. Hyde, JUDITH HOLMES HYDE, daughter of P. L. and M. B. Hyde, aged 6 months.

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS.

For Markets see Sixth Page.

Sales at the Stock Exchange, Jan. 2.

$1,000	Indiana State 5s	85	50	Erie Railroad	b3 50
5,000	Virginia 6s	85	100	do	42
5,000	do	b30	75	do	b30 42
2,000	Mich. South., Bds	73	50	do	b30 42
13,000	Ill. Cen. R. R. Bds	80	50	do	b30 42
1,000	do	b30	200	do	b30 42
10,000	do	86½	100	do	s5 42
5,000	N. Y. Cen. R. R. Scrip	93	100	do	s5 42
10,000	do	b30 93	200	do	b30 42
1,000	Pot. & Hud. Canal Co. 1st	100	100	do	b30 42
25	Harlem Co	50	200	do	s5 42
50	do	50	200	do	s5 42
50	do	50	100	do	s5 42
100 Rec.	Harlem Co	50	100	do	s5 42
100	do	b30 14	100	do	s5 42
100	do	b30 14	50	Gal. & Chi. R. R.	74
100	do	b30 14	50	do	74
100	do	b30 14	200	Harlem Railroad	s5 50
100	do	15	100	do	b30 50
100	do	b30 14	100	do	b30 50
100	do	15	100	do	b30 50
100 Pref.	N. H. Cons R R	3	100	do	b30 50
100	N. J. Cent Co	85	100	do	b30 50
100 Pref.	Cent. Co	b30	100	do	b30 50
100	do	85	100	do	b30 50
100	do	b30 85	100	do	b30 50
100	do	b30 85	100	do	b30 50
100	do	b30